REPORTS - MONTHLY - 1953-1954

4.

Prio. Rpt (3)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 13, 1954

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the agreement at the Istanbul conference, we are attaching copy of our Monthly Program Summary corresponding to the month of January, 1954.

We will send you each month copy of such monthly summary and will look forward to receiving such reports from your Mission.

Sincerely yours,

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

Encl.
HJCorson/pa

USA Operations Mission
Kabul, Afghanistan

Same letter sent to: Cairo, Egypt; Asmara, Eritrea; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; New Delhi, India; Tehran, Iran; Baghdad, Iraq; Amman, Jordan; Beirut, Lebanon; Tripoli, Libya; Karachi, Pakistan.

Prog. Summ (2)

FROM: SECSTATE WASHINGTON

Date; November 30, 1953

No: USFOTO 150

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Received: December 2, 1953
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EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES
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AMERICAN
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Control 1396
April 14, 1953
7:25 p.m.

MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY

In reviewing the Monthly Program Summaries which have been coming in under the revised reporting procedure we have noticed certain things which we feel should be called to your attention.

Uniformity in the reports from the various countries is essential to facilitate comparative analysis of operations. There will, of course, be some variation in emphasis and amount of detail, but the instructions should be followed in all cases. Consequently, it is important that the reports be prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the TCA Manual.

Content

In most of the reports received to date, the "Critique" section has been largely concerned with operating details rather than with a critical assessment of progress and problems. The type of information wanted is clearly spelled out in Section 341.41 of the reporting instructions. If there is nothing to be said for any particular month, the report should say so and not give data which belong in subsequent sections. Normally, however, it should be possible to write at least one or two paragraphs.

There is a tendency in the Operations Summary section to give unnecessary detail, to submit work reports, to include information which belongs in other sections, such as Agreements and Requests. This section is not a substitute for reports of individual technicians, which are provided for in Section 341.12 (d) of the instructions.

Format

Instructions concerning form, which are specific, have been disregarded at times. Each report is to include seven sections, with specified headings, and a page index is to be on the first page. Comparative study of the reports will be easier when these instructions are followed.

Responsibility for Preparation of Report

Reports, in most cases, have been prepared by Program Officers. While it is

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April 24, 1953
7:25 p.m.

Page 2 of Airgram to Certain Diplomatic Officers.

It is expected that they will be primarily responsible for writing the reports. The "Critique" section should be written by the Country Director or by someone with authority and information to reflect his views and opinions. This section should be the Country Director's personal review of the situation, based on sources of information which might not be available to other staff members.

SMITH, ACTING

SENT TO: AMEMBASSY, CAIRO
" ADDIS ABABA
" TEHRAN
" BAGHDAD
" TEL AVIV
" AMMAN
" BEIRUT
" ~~XXXXXXX~~ MONROVIA
" JIDDA
AMLEGATION, TRIPOLI

# AIRGRAM

# FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
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| 1 | OF | 5 |

DATE SENT: July 11, 1954

DATE REC'D.

FROM · Jidda

SUBJECT · Monthly Program Summary - June 1954

REFERENCE · (Check one before each address)

DISTRIBUTION

| ACTION | INFO. | ADDRESS AND SERIAL NUMBER |
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CRITIQUE

The month under report marks the end of a fiscal year, which can be termed as "the lost year" since during the entire period this Mission was not afforded the opportunity to perform the type of work for which it was established. Funds were not allotted for the FY-54 period until the middle of December last. Program and project agreements were prepared and submitted to the respective Ministries of SAG during the following 30 to 45 days. Since the fiscal year of the Saudi Arabian Government begins March 1, the respective Ministries, after discussing such programs and projects with the Mission, included them in their budget presentations for approval by the Council of Ministers. The SAG FY-54 budget comprises three sections: i.e., Government Operations, Economic and Social Development Projects, Reserves and Contingencies. The first part of the budget was not approved until the early part of May, after which discussions were initiated on the second part, which still has not been approved. The latter part of May certain political issues involving USG/SAG relations developed, which caused such relations to become more tense. This newly developed political atmosphere stimulated the Council of Ministers into recommending to the King that Point IV aid not be accepted. Although the Mission has received no official communication to this effect, neither the over-all economic aid agreement and its subordinate project agreements, nor any of the technical assistance agreements were executed, except three project agreements which, in reality, were of FY-53 vintage, although bottled up during the FY-54 period. The political issues mentioned above do not have the remotest relation to the Mission or its activities, but as a result of the situation created by them, USAOM/SA has been placed in the position of innocent bystanders that are likely to get hurt.

OTHER AGENCY

Obviously the personnel of the Mission feel very disheartened and discouraged by not having been able to do the work for which they were

| AUTHORIZING OFFICER | DRAFTED BY | OFFICE | PHONE NO. | DATE |
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| Harland D. Corson, Director | WBHazleton:mep | Adm. | | 7/11/54 |

FOA AND OTHER CLEARANCES

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FOA AND OTHER CLEARANCES

sent to Saudi Arabia. It is hoped that the situation of USAOM here in Saudi Arabia will be clarified at the session of the Council of Ministers scheduled to begin July 10.

Dr. Rashad Pharaon was appointed Minister of Health, such Ministry having come under the jurisdiction of H.R.H. Prince Abdullah Faisal, Minister of Interior. Dr. Pharaon is now in Paris winding up his diplomatic career and is expected to return to Saudi Arabia shortly to assume his new duties as Minister of Health.

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

A. Progress

Agriculture

Mr. Parker made a trip to Ethiopia to study livestock programs and to investigate supplies of feed that could be shipped to Saudi Arabia. Oil meal or cakes, durra and barley are abundant. Fish meal can be obtained in Asmara.

Mr. Gibbs has made a soil study of Shaikh Abdullah Sulaiman's farm and made a report to him to be used in planning future land and water management.

Mr. Schwan is writing a report on Arabian ranges.

Mr. Rountree continued work with farmers in Wadis Khulais and Fatima relative to seeds distributed earlier. He is now making a survey of agronomic problems in the Eastern Province.

Mr. Barham, in Hofuf, reports that the vegetable seeds distributed gave good results. He is attempting to demonstrate the benefits of less irrigation to farmers who now over-irrigate their land.

Health and Sanitation

The temporary camp site at Wadi Khulais is completed for use.

Mosquito larvae collection stations were revisited and checked for larvae. The anophelene mosquito larvae count was found very low in number and all stations were negative after 50 to 100 dips. A continual check will be made to determine the best time for DDT spraying.

It is anticipated that the Quarantine Station will be ready within a month for any epidemic that may occur during the Pilgrimage. Saudi Government contractors have completed the network of salt water piping and will soon be ready to connect up with the Station's distribution system. A new morgue has been completed as well as several kilometers of paved road within the compound.

Alterations recommended by the USAOM engineer have been carried out.

Dr. Shoukri, Egyptian Bacteriologist, has arrived to take charge of the laboratory at the Station.

During the last two weeks progress has been made on getting the Maternal and Child Health Center in operation. Dr. Ehsan, Pediatrician, arrived from Egypt to serve the center. Several days were spent in setting up the Center with the equipment now available.

Opening of the Center on June 19 was announced by Dr. Shuman, Director of Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health. Unfortunately, the opening has not been officially announced in the press as yet. A graduate nurse-midwife arrived from Mecca on June 21. She has worked in health centers in Egypt and is familiar with the program.

Natural Resources

Field work in June consisted of completion of the astral control for the last of the aerial photography. The geography on 16 sheets of the Quanfida-Lith block was finished and transmitted to Washington for printing. Seven sheets remain in the vicinity of Lith. Field work, including sampling, on a low-grade copper deposit in the Northern Hejaz was completed and a report for the Foreign Minister nearly completed. Twenty-one water analyses were made including ten samples from the abandoned railroad between Medina and the Jordan border.

Samples for petrographic and paleontologic studies were prepared and shipped to the Geological Survey in Washington. Rough drafts describing 13 localities where the ancient people mined were also prepared.

Transportation and Communications

Mr. A. W. Van Dyke, Highway Engineer from the Transportation Division, FOA/W arrived on June 7 and left on June 9. Highway problems were discussed with Mr. Corson. The Chief of the Division took Mr. Van Dyke to see Mr. Fuad A. Zahed, Chief Highway Engineer for the SAG Ministry of Communications where the various problems involved in highway construction in Saudi Arabia were discussed. Mr. Van Dyke also met Aramco officials in Jidda and went over the highway situation from the Aramco point of view. Mr. Van Dyke seemed well pleased with his visit to Jidda.

Public Administration

A recommendation looking forward to a Records Management Program was submitted to the Minister of Finance. The plan contemplates assignment of a qualified Saudi for training in the United States and assignment of a U.S. Records Management Specialist.

The Minister of Finance indicated to the Chief of the Division his interest in the records program, custom activities, and educational emphasis. He wants to select four officials to receive training with the Mission. The Minister also desires copies of the Division's reports for circulation to officials.

The first section of the Export-Import Statistical project (Commodity Classification) was submitted to the Minister of Finance. No counterpart for Mr. George has yet been assigned.

An objective of the Division is an educational program. Talks were given to Saudis who are to attend the seminar at the American University of Beirut, July 3 - 31. Further attention will be given this group on their return. It is contemplated to visit AUB to investigate possible loan of lecturers, the preparation of Arabic-English translations of texts on public administration, and for discussion of teaching methods used in public administration classes for Middle East students.

Mr. Robert Kennedy arrived in June for consultation on customs problems. Program-wise he is studying the means by which SAG is putting into effect the new customs bill of entry which is now ready for release. Mr. Kennedy's advice is proving very helpful to USAOM/SA.

A. Training

Education

Two trainees were sent to the United States this month. In addition, six government officials were sent to Beirut to attend an Institute in Public Administration at the American University of Beirut.

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture

Draft copies have been made of two project agreements for the FY 55 program. They are an agricultural school and an agricultural extension service.

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

C. Requests

Public Administration

A request has been made for a recommendation on the establishment of a national statistical program. This report will, of necessity, be confined to general considerations involved in an approach to any national statistical program. If further assistance from USAOM/SA is desired the work plan will follow that for the records management program.

Requests for consultations on public administration problems from officials of the Ministry of Finance are increasing. These include assistance on a minimum program of statistics for the Division of Income Tax and Zakat and on personnel regulations.

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

D. Informational Materials

Public Administration

A brochure was prepared in Arabic which explains opportunities through FOA with respect to business and industrial development. It is being distributed through the Bureau of Mines and Companies and the Chambers of Commerce in Riyadh, Jidda, and Dammam.

DATE: June 11, 1954

FROM: Jidda

SUBJECT: Monthly Program Summary - May 1954

SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month under report, no agreements either TA or SEA were executed. The Director was summoned to Riyadh by the Crown Prince to discuss and execute such agreements. During the last few days of his stay there, certain political issues came to a head which resulted in the Council of Ministers postponing the execution of such agreements on which accord had been reached.

It is most unfortunate that USAOM found itself an innocent bystander, especially since the issues in question were most remote from the activities or objectives of Point IV. It is hoped that this situation will be clarified very shortly and USAOM will be in a position whereby it can continue its work in Saudi Arabia.

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

Project agreements for FY 1954 have not been signed by the Minister of Agriculture. Time has become very short for using FY 1954 funds, and the continued delay tends to create personnel problems.

May is the month of Ramadan and activity by division personnel and their counterparts has been almost at a standstill.

Mr. Parker is in Ethiopia studying livestock development there. Earlier in the month, he opened the pit silo in Wadi Khulais to demonstrate to farmers how succulent feed can be provided livestock at any time in the year and how green feeds in season can be preserved in this manner. This demonstration was on the farm of a leading Sheikh in the Khulais community.

| Authorizing Officer | Drafted by | Office | Date |
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| Harland J. Corson, Director | WBHaseltonmoo | Adm. | 5/27/54 |

Mr. Scantree has continued to work with the farmers in Wadi Fatima to whom he had distributed seed and fertilizer. Results have been satisfactory.

Mr. Barhan at Hofuf reports that farmers are well pleased with the seed furnished to them. Vegetables from these seeds sold on the local market have created much favorable comment.

After visiting important farming areas, Mr. Gibbs, Soil Scientist, is making plans for soil and water studies to be conducted at Wadi Khulais, Hofuf, Qatif, and Dammam. It is planned to devote much time to instructing farmers in water management.

The Waterspreading and Range Management Leaders Conference held at Amman, Jordan, was attended by Messrs. Schwan, Edens, and Ibrahim Mohammed Abu Boutain, counterpart to Mr. Schwan in Desert Range Management.

## Health and Sanitation

Field work continued the entire month on Malaria Control in Wadi Khulais. The time has been spent in preparing the field camp site so that it will be in readiness before the spray program begins in September. It also aids the city-bred Saudi Arabian personnel assigned to this program to adjust to desert life so that when the program gets underway, they can devote their time and energy to the program instead of constant attention to daily living necessities. Because of the intense heat and Ramadan, the work has not proceeded as fast as desired.

The camp site has been cleaned and set out in an orderly manner. A requisition has been placed for sufficient pipe and water tanks to supply the camp with water and eliminate the time required to haul water. This will be most important when the time comes for mixing DDT and the actual spray program start in September. The supplies and equipment will be obtained either from the Ministry of Health stores or by USAID/SA local requisitions. A number of items have been on requisition for some time but have not been purchased as yet.

During the next months, the spraying equipment will be assembled, repaired, and put in readiness for use. Workers will be secured through the Ministry of Health in time to train them in spray work.

A continued check is being kept on the people for malaria and on the mosquito population in the Wadi Khulais villages. The Malariologist hopes to obtain a small electric generator that may be used to show films in Arabic on Malaria Control and house spraying to the people in the area prior to the start of the spraying program. It is hoped that this will be an aid in securing their cooperation. It will also provide light for the camp.

It is hoped that the necessary laboratory equipment requisitioned through FOA/W some months ago will arrive before fall so that the laboratory can be set up for use. Plans are made to begin a survey for Bilharzia and other intestinal parasites as soon as the anti-malaria spraying is over.

A concerted effort is being made by SAG to complete all the necessary construction work at the Quarantine Station so that it will be ready by July 1954 for the Pilgrims. USAOM/SA plans for construction and remodeling are being carried out by GOSESCO, SAG contractors.

The steam boilers will be housed in the building originally intended to be used as the morgue. This building is being enlarged to accommodate the boilers. The Ministry of Health has decided that the morgue should be located outside the Quarantine Station compound and they have started a new building.

The salt water system, including piping, storage tank, and a large underground tank, is nearing completion.

The six-inch transit water pipeline from Jidda is about 50 percent completed. Work has slowed down during Ramadan as the laborers work only a few hours a day.

The USAOM/SA Sanitary Engineer spent two weeks in Dhahran conferring with Aramco engineers on problems relating to water softening, boiler installation and maintenance, steam line installation, fuel and reservoir location and the handling of the heat problem in the autoclave rooms. This period of consultation was most helpful and afforded many new approaches to these problems.

It is expected that all USAOM/SA equipment for the Quarantine Station will arrive in Jidda by June 15, 1954.

No progress can be reported on the development of the Maternal and Child Health Center in over a month. It has been impossible to contact anyone in the Jidda office the Ministry of Health as only the clerks have been on duty. The Ministry has given no indication as to its plans for staffing and opening the Center.

USAOM/SA has fulfilled its part of the agreement to date and can only await the Ministry's decision as to when the Center will begin to function. Many of the supplies, requisitioned by USAOM/SA for the Center, have arrived and all of them will be here within the next month.

The SAG still wants USAOM/SA to furnish the necessary laboratory equipment for the establishment of a Vaccine Laboratory. This laboratory is now to be established in Jidda and a Project Agreement for the securing of the equipment was signed on April 30, 1954, by the Minister of Health and the Director of USAOM/SA.

Education

Textbooks and instructional material ordered for the Commercial School were removed from customs where they have been for four months. They have been placed in the warehouse awaiting the signing of the project agreement.

The month of May has been a very busy one although there have been no significant developments. Much depends upon current negotiations being carried on in Riyadh between the Prime Minister and Director, USAOM/SA. Should all projects previously agreed upon be signed as the result of these conferences, the problem of organization and work will be greater than ever before.

Natural Resources

Reconnaissance mapping of geology and geography continued during the month. Arrangements were made with the Arabian American Oil Company to prepare a joint geologic map of the peninsula in accordance with the Finance Minister's request of October 25, 1953, and work on the compilation was started during May. A map on a scale of 1 - 4,000,000 will be presented within a few weeks, followed by sheets prepared on a scale of 1 - 500,000.

Public Administration

The Statistics Specialist is now engaged in making a survey of the work procedures and the practices followed in commodity and country classification, coverage, and valuation in the Saudi Arabian foreign trade statistics at Customs. Considerable attention during the period was given to the problem of establishing an adequate Commodity Classification Schedule for presentation of import-export statistics.

Activities of the Business Law Specialist during the month were directed toward developing necessary personal contacts and background in existing legal procedures, practices and published material relating to the organization and operation of companies. Worthwhile conferences were held with Zhenir Shawwa, one of the few attorneys in Jidda; Alex McCloud and Hasan Khalidi of the Monetary Agency, and Shaikh Ahmed Salah Ba'sishen, President of the Commercial Court. Introductory and orientation meetings were held with His Excellency, Shaikh Abdul Aziz Suleiman, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, and Sayid Sami Kutbi of the Bureau of Mines and Companies, within whose jurisdiction company legislation falls. Preliminary attention was given to the possibility of enlisting the Saudis in the Contact Clearing Service, an exchange of opportunity ideas conducted by the Office of Small Business, FOA/W. Similar attention was directed toward a service regarding small factory plans. The latter service is offered by the Industrial Program Division, FOA/W.

The Public Administration Division completed survey of that portion of the Ministry of Finance which is under the jurisdiction of H.E. Abdul Aziz Suleiman.

Further work on the review project will be delayed pending conference with H.E. Abdalla Sulaiman, Minister of Finance. A recommendation from Say'd Sami Kutbi has gone forward to the Minister to this effect.

Further activities of the Division include the following: Review at the request of S. T. Sanders, UNTAA Telecommunications Specialist, of the organizational aspects of a recommendation for a new Engineering Division for the Ministry of Communications. The Chief of Public Administration has made arrangements for a series of talks on Public Administration matters to the six Saudis who have been selected to attend the Public Administration Seminar at AUB Beirut, July 3-31. They will begin shortly after Ramadan.

c. Training

Agriculture

A training grant has been recommended for Abbas Al Simani by the Chief of the Division. The grant is for one year's training in agricultural statistics. Word has been received that the Minister of Agriculture is holding the application under advisement.

Education

Six trainees in Public Administration were selected, applications processed and sent to FOA/W for clearance to attend an Institute in Public Administration at American University, Beirut, starting July 3, and closing July 31. Clearance also was obtained for these trainees at AUB. A seventh training grant application for Comparative Law study at New York University was processed and sent to FOA/W.

Serious attempt was made to send six teachers to the Summer Institute at AUB. Notice of approval of the Institute by FOA/W was received late in April and the two months for security clearance allowed only two weeks for submission of applications to meet the scheduled deadlines of security and the opening of the summer session, July 6. This was not sufficient time for the Minister to select his candidates. It was necessary to cancel further efforts in this connection as of the middle of the month.

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture

Project agreements to establish a School of Agriculture, and an Agricultural Extension Service are being written for discussion with the Minister of Agriculture under the proposed FY 1955 budget.

Transportation and Communications

Transportation and Communications

Ramadan is with us this month and during that period there is not much of anything accomplished in Saudi Arabia.

Two conferences were held with the representative of the International Telephone Equipment Company of Chicago concerning automatic telephone systems for the cities of Riyadh, Medina, Mecca, and Taif.

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

b. Agreements under Current Negotiation

Agriculture

As yet, the Agriculture Division has not experienced the execution of a FY 1954 project agreement. All of the FY 1954 project agreements are under current negotiation by the Director, MEACON/SA and Saudi officials at Riyadh.

Education

A summer school teacher training project for Saudi Arabia teachers at Taif was written for consideration of the Minister of Education.

Transportation and Communications

The Division is still awaiting the outcome of the meeting of the Council of Ministers currently being held at Riyadh concerning the signing of the Division's agreements.

d. Requests

Agriculture

At the request of Mr. Mohammed El Mously, a Jidda merchant, Messrs. Gibbs, Parker and Rountree made a survey of his farm and recommended a system of farming to follow.

Education

Mr. Anderson, Vocational Education Specialist, was requested by a Saudi school official, to serve on the committee for testing woodworking students at the Jidda Industrial School. He assisted in formulating the tests and in grading examinations.

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

c. USAOM Activities

Education

A number of the films acquired from the Embassy were run to determine condition and suitability or adaptability for use in showing to Saudi nationals.

d. Technical Material

Agriculture

The study of date varieties by Mr. Nixon is ready to be bound when mimeographing of the manuscript can be completed. The bulletin he has written on "The Culture of Dates in the Eastern Province" is now being proof-read and will soon be ready for printing.

# USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

## Monthly Program Summary - April 1954

## INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 1 - 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 6 |
| | Progress | 2 - 5 |
| | Local Participation | 5 - 6 |
| | Training | 6 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 - 7 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 7 |
| VI | W.H.O. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM | 7 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 8 |

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

April 30, 1954

MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - APRIL 1954

SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month under review there was very little activity project-wise due to the fact that the Ministers are still at Riyadh participating in the Council of Ministers' meeting. We were able, however, to get one project approved; i.e., immunization program and vaccine laboratory. The King returned from Karachi almost a week ago and has approved the first section of the budget; i.e., government operations. It is expected that the second section of the budget - development projects - will be discussed and approved next.

At our request on May 1st Shaikh Abdul Aziz Sulaiman, Acting Deputy Minister of Finance, telegraphed his father, the Minister of Finance, at Riyadh, explaining at length the necessity of early action on the development project agreements, as well as the over-all economic aid agreement, pointing out that only two months remain of our fiscal year during which all such agreements must be negotiated and signed if the Saudi Government wishes to avail itself of the funds allotted by our Government for such purposes. In that telegram Shaikh Abdul Aziz requested that the Minister of Finance in his reply state when action by the Council may be expected on such agreements. To date, no reply has been received.

Immediately the over-all economic aid agreement has been executed, the project agreements thereunder will be presented to the Council for its consideration and approval.

Although Ramadan begins May 5th and continues for one month, we are informed that during that period the Council will continue to hold sessions. Since all of our project agreements are of the obligating type, we hope that, with full cooperation from the respective Ministers, all of such agreements will be signed before June 30 next. The Director handed Ambassador Wadsworth a detailed memorandum on our present situation in order that the points treated therein might be used in his current discussions with the King and it is hoped that as a result of such discussions, early action on development projects will be forthcoming.

During the month our Public Administration Division again became operative and the members thereof are already actively engaged in getting their work under way, beginning in the Ministry of Finance. The cooperation furnished our technicians by that Ministry is wholehearted and it is expected that before too long some positive results will be in evidence.

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

Project agreements for 1954 have not been signed by the Minister of Agriculture. This is expected to take place at any time since the Council of Ministers is now in session. Activity by personnel of the Division continues to be exploratory, and assistance to farmers in Wadis Khulais and Fatima, as well as at Hofuf.

Mr. Gibbs completed his visit to the Asir-Tihama area where he made a study pertaining to soils, crops, livestock, available water and food supplies. Time was spent with Dr. Alvin D. Ayers, Soil Scientist, U.S. Salinity Laboratory, Riverside, California.

Mr. Parker accompanied Mr. Barham to Hofuf where an intensive study of livestock conditions was made. There was much more livestock in this oasis than was expected. Mr. Leo F. McAteer, representative of Reynolds Metals Company, was contacted to learn what success he was having with the aluminum foil experiment at Al Kharj.

Mr. Rountree has continued work with farmers in Wadis Khulais and Fatima. Corn side-dressed with 16-20-0 fertilizer is responding very well, and one farmer, at Mr. Rountree's suggestion, has begun spreading organic matter over a portion of his crop land. Alfalfa plots top dressed with 16-20-0 have shown outstanding response. The estimate was that growth was three times that of growth on untreated plots. Fertilized vegetables showed definite response, but not as pronounced as on alfalfa.

Health and Sanitation

The Ministry of Health has approved in principle the over-all work plan for health program in Wadi Khulais and Dr. Shuman has requested that we continue with the work there. They have not as yet determined within the Ministry of Health just how they will handle it financially, but have continued to furnish SAG personnel and equipment needed for the work in Khulais.

Dr. Shuman left for Geneva on April 19. However, in a long conference with him we agreed on a plan of action to be followed until his return from abroad sometime in June.

There has been considerable activity at the Quarantine Station during the past month, although very little has been accomplished specifically. No work has been done on the disinfection building other than the one day's work done while Mr. Skrinde was on the field trip to Gizan.

The Sanitary Engineer has held a number of conferences with the GOVENCO engineers and they planned together all the details of installation of the autoclaves, boilers, fans and storage tanks when they arrive from the United States. Notice has been received that the boilers will arrive in Jidda about April 30, 1954, but no word has been received on the rest of the equipment.

Numerous conferences have been held with Dr. Shuman at the Ministry of Health during the month in an effort to speed up the preparations for the opening of the Maternal and Child Health Center.

There seems to be little chance of having electric power or water at the Center at this time. The water company will connect their lines after they have installed larger main line pipes. The electric company does not have enough electricity at this time, nor do they have transformers as yet. Dr. Shuman has made arrangements with the Ministry water truck to deliver water to the Center and the owner of the building has installed an electric pump and run a line across the street from his own generator to operate it for the time being. The Ministry has supplied primus stoves and Coleman lanterns. While this is not ideal, the Center could function with these facilities for the time being. However, since Dr. Shuman has left the country to attend meetings in Geneva, it has been impossible to reach anyone in the Ministry to move the program along.

Dr. Shuman requested on April 11th that the nurse-midwives be sent over from Mecca. To date they have not arrived. The doctor from Egypt is still awaiting her visa, but is ready to come to Jidda as soon as she receives it.

Dr. Kushutje seems to have some doubts that the Center can operate with the present facilities but has not been available for conferences.

## Education

Aside from the processing of four training grant applications, numerous conferences on educational matters and communications with FOA/W on trainees, and summer training conferences, the month's activities have been one of keeping abreast of developments in the Council of Ministers' meeting in Riyadh and trying to anticipate the signing of project agreements.

## Natural Resources

Reconnaissance mapping of geology and geography continued during the month. Work was continued on gold-bearing quartz veins found northeast

of Bisha, on old workings in the vicinity of Khurma, and in the mountains between Ohama and Wadi Ahsaba within the Quinfida-Lith block. Of immediate interest in this region was the discovery of a possible roadway from Lith to the Qizan basin near the foot of the Asir scarp. This region, which is mostly unexplored, is densely populated with numerous villages and large areas of cultivation. Wadis Hali, Raish, Gashar, Jabola, Ghat, and Yiba were found to be perennial streams for many kilometers along their upper courses. A lead-bearing vein system in marble and an outcrop of copper-bearing sulphides were found during the reconnaissance.

The field work on the laterite beds in the Sirat of the Asir was completed during the month and a small iron deposit was examined on top of Jebel Suda, west of Abha. Samples of the laterite were crushed and split; fractions were sent to Washington for analysis. A map based on aerial photographs and showing the laterite beds was nearly complete at the end of the month.

## Public Administration

During the report period the Public Administration Division was reactivated with the arrival of the following personnel:

Lawrence W. Smith, Chief of Division
William C. George, Statistical Specialist
Joseph P. Farrell, Business Law Specialist
Mary E. Parrish, Secretary

John Bode, Budget and Finance Officer of the Mission, is to be transferred to the Public Administration staff as Accounting Specialist. Although SAG has not as yet initiated action for the establishment of a new Comptroller General agency, the recruitment of a man to perform Mr. Bode's present functions for the Mission justifies the most rapid action. Mr. Bode would be of great value now in connection with the work which is going forward with the Ministry of Finance.

The news that Kenneth Linden has refused assignment here as Customs Procedures Specialist was most depressing. SAG has been looking forward with considerable anticipation to this assistance and liaison work during the current month has appeared to establish us exceedingly well with the Directorate of Customs. It is hoped that another man will be recruited for this vacancy as well qualified as Linden.

Smith and George were introduced to Ambassador Wadsworth on April 1 by the Director. Although presentations to principal officials of SAG were delayed because of the meeting of the Council of Ministers at Riyadh, the Director was able to arrange sufficient contacts to permit the Division Chief to start work at the Ministry of Finance and the Statistics Specialist at the Directorate of Customs.

In this respect, the SAG officials who have been particularly helpful are H.E. Shaikh Abdul Aziz Sulaiman, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance; Sayed Sami Kutbi, Assistant to Abdul Aziz, and Shaikh Mohammed Nour Ruheimi, Director General of Customs. Additional time was employed during the period by both Smith and George in acquaintance with and study of a number of potential sources of information and assistance such as the Ministry of Communications (Rajai Hussedini, Secretary General of the Ministry), Aramco, Monetary Agency, British Consulate, American Embassy and the Jidda Chamber of Commerce.

The Division Chief has been provided an office in the Jidda office of the Ministry of Finance and is presently engaged in an orientation study of all operations. Principal activities of the Jidda office are the Department of Mines and Companies and the Department of Project Development. Following this study, a trip will be made to Dammam, where the other major field office is located. It was explained that this office has responsibility for all operations over the East Coast. The principal and largest office of the Ministry is located in Mecca and data concerning its present structure and operation will, of necessity, require construction by conference rather than visit. The objectives of the present work is to provide the technician with an orientation of SAG operations; the Ministry of Finance with an organizational and functional chart of current operations, and the Ministry of Finance with specific recommendations for improvement of operations. When this work is completed, SAG understands that the Division Chief will be available for another assignment.

During conversations with a number of officials, it was indicated, although unofficially, that SAG may request assistance in the establishment of the new Ministry of Commerce, preparation of a modern records management program, and advice and assistance upon certain problems of the Ministry of Interior. In all probability the greatest interest will center at the outset on files and records problems. The subject is accepted as a vital one by all the Ministries. Washington has been requested to forward data which may prove helpful in this regard.

The Chief of the Division accompanied Joseph Farrell for presentation to H.E. Shaikh Abdul Aziz Sulaiman on April 27. Although Farrell's specific program is not yet perfected, it is understood that he will be assigned to the Ministry of Finance, Department of Mines and Companies.

b. Local Participation

Health and Sanitation

At the request of the Ministry of Health, WHO has purchased equipment for the hospitals at the Quarantine Station and approximately 75 packing cases of this equipment have been delivered to the Station.

SAG has made a total allocation of 2,850,000 Saudi Riyals to the Quarantine Station for this equipment and to date approximately 2,300,000 SR have been spent by the Ministry of Health.

SAG has ordered the Jidda Water Company to construct a larger pipeline from the water main at the King's palace to the Quarantine Station. A four-inch line was advised but it is now rumored that a six-inch line is to be installed.

A salt water well has been drilled at the Station, to be used for flushing sewers and possibly for showers. It is not very brackish at the present time but will probably become more so as more water is pumped. The well pumps at least 300 GPM.

No arrangements have been completed to have the Quarantine Station supplied with electric power.

c. Training

Education

Four training grant applications have been prepared this month.

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Health and Sanitation

A number of conferences have been held with the Ministry of Health on the proposed immunization project. A draft of a cooperative agreement has been prepared and forwarded to the Ministry of Health for their comments and suggestions. In substance, this draft contained the proposals set forth in a letter from Mr. Corson to the Minister dated February 6, 1954.

Transportation and Communications

Mr. Sinclair, Division Chief, conferred with a representative of Philips Industries, Holland, regarding a radio communication system for Saudi Arabia.

Two discussions were held with a representative of International Automatic Electric Corporation, Chicago, regarding an automatic telephone system for Riyadh, Mecca and Medina.

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed

Health and Sanitation

On April 27, 1954, the Minister of Health and USAOM/SA signed the Vaccine Laboratory and Immunization Project which calls for expenditure of $85,000 in U.S. funds and an estimated $170,000 in host country contributions.

b. Agreements under Current Negotiation

Education

This month's activities have for the most part been devoted to keeping abreast of developments in the Council of Ministers meeting in Riyadh and trying to anticipate the signing of project agreements.

Transportation and Communications

Mr. Sinclair has drawn up agreements covering improvements to Gizan Harbor, construction of the Abha Dam and the engineering on five main roads.

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

d. Informational Pamphlets

Agriculture Division

"Grazing Administration - 700 A.D." is the title of a release reproduced this month by the Agriculture Division. It is a report on grazing conservation measures introduced by the Arabs, including water spreading techniques as practiced over 1200 years ago. The article is a translation from the Arabic of Mas'udi, celebrated Tenth Century historian. Grazing controls were instituted and penalties and rewards decreed which are not dissimilar to present practices.

SECTION VI. W.H.O. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM

Health and Sanitation

Dr. Shousha, WHO Regional Director, visited this office during the month. He stated that WHO has dropped its plans for maternal and child health work here since we have already started the program. WHO does plan to begin a Tuberculosis Control program and to begin a training program for male nurses in the near future for SAG.

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Local

Agriculture Division

The Division was visited by a Range Management and Water Spreading team consisting of three specialists from the States. Much of their planned assistance was nullified by having their travel restricted while in Saudi Arabia.

b. Adequacy of Service FOA/W

Agriculture

Mr. Schwan spent the first of the month preparing for the visit by the Range Management and Water Spreading team from the States. This team consisted of Dr. Oalf Aamodt, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Floyd Larson, Chief, Branch of Soil & Moisture Control, Bureau of Land Management. Dr. Ayers collaborated. Due to delay of translation and transmittal of letter by the Chief of Division to the Minister of Agriculture at Riyadh, the local official in charge of the Ministry office requested that the travel of our visiting team be delayed until he could communicate with the Minister. A few short trips were made to points in the vicinity of Jidda, but the main field trip was made impossible due to delay in hearing from the Minister. Approval was finally received from His Highness, but the team had made plans to go on to Iraq and Jordan in order to better utilize its time.

It should be stated that the Chief of the Agriculture Division was not notified of the visit of the above Range Management and Water Spreading team until about one week before its arrival. The Mission should have been notified at least one month earlier so that adequate time would have been available for clearing matters with the Ministry.

Mr. Robert B. Thrailkill, Assistant Director of the Regional Locust Control program, visited the Mission for the purpose of offering to the Ministry for a limited time its facilities and technicians in supplying a demonstrational control unit for various crop insects in the Al Kharj and Riyadh areas.

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

# AIRGRAM

# FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

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| PAGE | | PAGES |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | OF | 8 |

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INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 3 - 8 |
| | PROGRESS | 3 - 7 |
| | TRAINING | 8 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 8 |


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# MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - MARCH 1954

## SECTION I. CRITIQUE

The month of March was one of considerable activity, not for this Mission but for the Council of Ministers meeting in Riyadh where, among other things, development projects and covering agreements are being discussed and approved as part of the Saudi Government's 1954 fiscal year budgets. The special economic aid agreement has been discussed and in fact was still under discussion at the end of the month under review. USOM/SA expects to receive word shortly of its approval. In the meantime, the activities of this Mission are virtually at a standstill.

Under separate cover a copy of the King's speech, delivered at the opening session of the Council of Ministers' meeting, has been sent to FOA/W. In his speech the King, after discussing current political problems, policy matters, etc., stated that three budgets would be drawn up, approved and made effective, namely:

(1) Operating expenses of Government offices;
(2) Development and construction projects;
(3) Reserves and contingencies.

As part of the development and construction projects budget, the King specifically mentioned water development, public health, education, agriculture and communications. These are the principal fields of activity under which USOM/SAA program and projects fall. It is hoped that the Saudi 1954 budgets, also development program and project agreements will be approved by the middle of April.

It is reported that the Council of Ministers before opening discussions on budget matters approved a "modus operandi" for the Council of Ministers; that they approved a wage and salary scale for Government employees, and that they also appointed Sayed Mohammed Alireza as Minister of Commerce (another new Ministry).

The Director, Chief of Transportation Division, and Chief of the Agriculture Division, accompanied by four technicians, made an overland trip from Jidda to Gizan, near the Yemen border, for the purpose of studying possible routes for the proposed Jidda-Gizan road, for studying several proposed agricultural projects in the north and south Tihama areas, for formulating work plans covering the Ithad Community Development project, for observing sanitary conditions in towns and villages along the route, and for looking over the requirements for port improvements at Gizan. A complete report, including photographs, will be sent to FOA/W. The trip, although rugged, was most enlightening.

## SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

### a. Programs

#### Agricultural Extension

The month of March was rather quiet due to the presence in Riyadh of the Minister of Agriculture and all of his principal aides, to plan government and Ministry organization and budgets for the next fiscal year. There appears no opportunity to get project agreements for the current fiscal year signed until the Riyadh meeting is ended. Several weeks more may be required. The Khulais work plan has not received final approval by the Minister.

Efforts have been made to do certain types of extension work anticipating approval of projects. Seeds have been distributed in Wadi Khulais and Fatima and in the Nafud area. Range revegetation test plantings have been made at Kilo 10 horticulture experiment station. The third range management plot has been selected. Efforts have continued to locate appropriate feed supplements for poultry and livestock. With no facilities to receive baby chicks, it is doubtful whether it will be feasible to distribute some of these this spring.

During March preliminary work has been pursued which will be of benefit to implementing projects:

1. Investigations have been made by Mr. Parker relative to sources of animal protein for livestock feeds. A trip was made to Cairo in this connection and to view the poultry and livestock program there. Egypt imports its animal protein from Denmark. The original plan was to import and distribute about 6,000 chicks, but with the delay in constructing livestock buildings, and consequently no place to care for the chicks for a short period of time, this phase of the proposed livestock project may have to be shelved.

2. During this month Mr. Ramirez, Agronomist, has spent considerable time in Wadi Khulais relative to establishing a crop experimental farm when the Khulais work plan is approved by the Minister of Agriculture. The greatest interest on the part of farmers is in insecticides, improved seeds and the use of fertilizer. Several months ago it was planned to have the experimental seed plots seeded this spring, but without agreement by the Ministry no plot of land is available. However, some tomato, sweet pepper, watermelon, cantaloupe and cucumber seeds have been distributed to about ten farmers who were willing to cooperate on a testing basis. A small amount of fertilizer was given to each farmer. Also, a field demonstration was conducted with the above farmers to show how to apply the fertilizer. One outstanding and progressive farmer has offered land for trial plantings.

Similar work has been conducted in Wadi Fatima and Mr. Barham is in the process of similar meetings in the Al Hasa area.

A trip was made by Mr. Simon and his counterpart to Riyadh to study range conditions and to select a suitable range management test plot. During the first part of March test plots at Hile 28 station were seeded. Fifty-one species were planted and arrangements made for irrigation.

A trip was made from Jidda to Gizan, March 11-23, 1954, by the Director, Program Officer and his assistant, a representative of the Health Division, Chief of Transportation, a Soil Scientist, and Chief of the Agriculture Division. The purpose of this trip was to observe road conditions between Jidda, El Darb and Gizan, agricultural conditions and opportunities, and health situations. The occasion was profitable to all in that it gave first-hand information pertaining to Point 4 objectives.

Mr. George Gibbs, Soils Scientist, and his counterpart remained at El Darb to study soil conditions, irrigation problems, and agricultural conditions in general.

## Health and Sanitation

### Malaria Control

The preliminary report on observations made at Wadi Khulais during January and February was forwarded to the Ministry of Health. At the same time a proposed plan for general health work for Wadi Khulais was sent to the Ministry of Health for their approval. Dr. Shuman, Director of Preventive Medicine, approved the plan and forwarded it and the Malaria report to the Minister of Health.

The examination of the blood films taken from 92 persons during the survey show an incidence of malaria of 87%. In the 0 - 15 year age group, who do not leave the area, 66% had malaria. This corresponds closely with an earlier spot check made in July 1953, which showed that 50% of this age group had malaria.

Mosquito larvae collection stations established in the Wadi during the previous two months were revisited during March and checked for larvae.

### Sanitation

A field trip was made to the Asir-Sihma area in southwest Saudi Arabia from March 11 - 25 inclusive. The purpose of this trip was to make a limited survey of the area in relation to the possible development of a Community program for this area.

On March 22 the Saudi Government issued an order to the Government Engineering and Construction Company (GOTAMCO) to make the necessary alterations and additions to the Quarantine Station to complete it for use. Progress to date has been limited to making a number of holes for windows for light and ventilation for the disinfecting building.

Dr. A. N. Sadek, WHO Quarantine Advisor, has arrived in Jidda and will be here until December 1954. He seems very well informed on the status of the new station and feels that in view of the amount of work still to be completed and the limited time left before this year's pilgrimage, it will be very unlikely that the station can operate as a Quarantine Station in 1954.

According to newspaper reports, the King has allocated 850,000 Saudi Riyals to complete the work on the Quarantine Station.

## Maternal and Child Health

March 23 was a milestone in the progress of the Maternal and Child Health program, as on this date the keys to the building were turned over to the Director of Preventive Medicine of the Ministry of Health. They are now cleaning the building and getting it ready for use. Some equipment will be sent from the warehouse in Naples soon.

Only a small part of the USAOM equipment is available now and no word has been received on the status of the main requisition, sent in January for procurement.

The staff for the Center are being recruited by the Ministry of Health with the aid of the WHO Public Health Advisor. They will most likely come from Egypt and should be available soon. It is hoped that within the next month the Center can begin functioning.

## Other

Revised budget forms were prepared for the Division of Health and Sanitation for FY-1955, covering the Technical Assistance Program and separately that for Special Emergency Aid.

## Education

The months of February and March were very active months for the Education Division. The new Minister of Education asked that an organizational plan be developed for the new Ministry, specifying positions and general organizational arrangement. Much time was consumed in drafting a detailed organizational chart and graphically indicating the organizational procedure and suggested flow of business through this organization. After preparing this material in graphic form, numerous conferences were held with the Minister and members of his immediate staff for the purpose of reviewing the justification for positions and the reasoning that entered into their development. After much discussion on the subject, the organization was modified to coincide with the expressed desires of the new Minister and new charts were developed. These, in turn, were reviewed and, in light of further considerations, changed and a new chart prepared. In all, six different organizational charts were prepared during the month of February with the

final draft being accepted as the basis on which the Ministry would attempt to organize for business after the approval of its annual budget request.

Upon the finalization of organizational arrangements, the Minister requested that job specifications and lines of authority be defined and specified in detail for all positions of importance as set forth in the organizational arrangement. This was done with the submission of some forty pages of material to the Minister for his consideration. Every effort was made to comply with his request and the work was done with the expenditure of a great amount of effort in order to satisfy the urgency of the Minister's request.

Simultaneously with the request of the Minister of Education, the Minister of Communications called on the Chief of Education to make similar graphic analyses of the Ministry of Communications, along with job specifications and functional procedures for the handling of business. These requests were likewise handled under forced draft and concluded on schedule and apparently to the complete satisfaction of the Minister.

On February 20, the Chief of the Education Division went to Beirut to attend a conference at American University for the purpose of reconsidering the contractual arrangements with this institution that would provide for a more equitable financial situation for the University and a broader service to the various country missions from the standpoint of training. Reports on this meeting and recommendations from the training officials in attendance, including the President of AUB and members of his staff, have gone forward to the Washington office. The results of the meeting, insofar as the conclusions reached were concerned, can be considered extremely successful and should the recommendations of the group be followed, it is anticipated that much benefit will result to the respective missions in the Middle East from the standpoint of increased training service and educational assistance.

Upon the conclusion of the meeting, and in company with Mr. Corson, Country Director, the educational institutions of Egypt, particularly Cairo, were visited with the view to finding adequate facilities for training closer than the United States to Saudi Arabia. The Ministry of Education in Cairo was visited and numerous conferences were held with educational officials of both the Ministry and USAID/Egypt. Fouad and American Universities were visited, and the Heliopolis Trade School, along with some fundamental educational centers that were being developed under the sponsorship of the United Nations Educational Mission to Egypt. The only training center that offered any possibility of use was the Heliopolis Trade School; however, their facilities were in the process of development and I was advised that they were not yet ready to participate in a regional training arrangement. It is important to note that up to the present time there have been no technical training schools discovered in the Middle East that can be used for training technicians from Saudi Arabia. This is a great handicap because many of the technicians could more advantageously, because of language barriers, be trained in the region rather than sending them to the United States.

## Natural Resources

Most of the staff of the Natural Resources Division have been occupied making field investigations during the month of March. Reports from the field have been very sketchy, therefore detailed information cannot be given at this time.

Mr. Glen Brown departed from Jidda on March 1st and has been in the field the entire month. He has concerned himself primarily with the investigations of the mineralized areas in the general vicinity of Bhaia and Abha.

Mr. Richard Rogue has been in the field the entire month of March. He has been making detailed investigations of various mineralized areas in the Bhaia area in conjunction wi th Mr. Dan Schaffner of the Saudi Department of Mines and Companies.

Mr. Gus Goudard has been in the field the entire month of March. He has been making detailed mineral investigations in the area southeast of Abha.

Mr. Roy Jackson made a reconnaissance of the Wadi Fatima-Taif-Bamm-Safan area during the period March 5th to 12th for the purpose of establishing geodetic control and obtaining geologic and geographic information. During the remainder of the month he has been occupied computing geodetic positions and preparing mosaic sheets for publication.

Drilling activities during the month of March included the drilling of two wells in the Darb area. The contract between USAOM and Michael Baker, Incorporated for the operation of the Saudi Water Resources Division was terminated as of the end of the month. All equipment is now in the hands of GOWSCO.

## Transportation and Communications

During the first week of this month, Mr. Albright, Engineer with the Civil Aeronautics Authority stationed at Beirut, was in Jidda for the purpose of discussing and looking over sites for the installation of Visual Omni Range equipment for the Jidda Airport.

From November 11 to 22, inclusive, a field trip was made to Gizan and return for the purpose of looking over the present highway and the harbor at Gizan, in connection with proposed improvements to be made both along the highway and at the harbor, in order that the harbor may be opened up as an additional port of entry for this country on the Red Sea.

The Ministers are still in Riyadh and we are patiently awaiting their return to Jidda inorder that we may find out what the prospects are of implementing our various projects.

b. Local Participation (Nothing to report).

c. Training

Education

Five aircraft trainees departed for the States during the latter part of March. These are the first five new trainees to be sent to the United States from applications submitted during this fiscal year.

On March 25, in response to an invitation from Prince Talal, Minister of Communications, the Chief of the Education Division went to Riyadh to discuss the Dammam Training School Project and a leadership grant for a high official of the Ministry.

Two trainees returned to Saudi Arabia from the States during this two-month period just ended; One, Chief Tewfic, who had just concluded a leadership grant, and the other, Mr. Omar Zaki of the Saudi Arabian Customs, who had just concluded a Type C Training Grant. Both of these individuals were very enthusiastic about their training and the kind of treatment they received during their stay in the States. In the case of Mr.Zaki, steps have been taken to secure a promotion for him in the Customs Office and for him to be assigned to work with the Government Services Division of the USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia in the future. In the case of Mr. Tewfic, he has been promoted to Assistant Director General of the Police Forces. Certainly up to this moment it can be concluded that the investment for the training of these two individuals has proven worthwhile.

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for." The substance in the form of project agreements and work plans now repose at Riyadh, and for their approval we hope for the best. Reality forces us to be reminded that there must be agreement on both sides of the fence line before the fence can be cooperatively built. We impatiently await the Ministers' return, for which there appears to be no hurry.

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

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USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia 1 7

Monthly Program Summary - February 1954 March 9, 1954

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INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 5 |
| | PROGRESS | 2 - 5 |
| | TRAINING | 5 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 5 - 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 |
| | REQUESTS | 6 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 6 - 7 |
| | U.S. AGENCIES | 6 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT IV | 7 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 7 |


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CONFIDENTIAL

MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY REG. 54

FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - February 1954

SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month under review there was very little activity due to the fact that the meeting of the Council of Ministers formerly scheduled for the second week in February was postponed until the second week in March. At this meeting the Saudi FY 54 budgets are to be discussed and approved as well as the TA program and project agreements which have been prepared and discussed with the respective Ministries.

The Special Economic Aid Agreement was prepared and handed to the Minister of Finance who will present it to the forthcoming meeting of the Council of Ministers for ratification. The project agreements under FY 54 Special Economic Aid are practically ready for presentation to the respective Ministries for their consideration and approval.

The personnel situation of this Mission still remains far from adequate, even though approximately two-thirds of the FY 54 has passed. It is feared that, unless this Mission is properly staffed soon, long hours and pressure of work will cause some "crack ups" with the approach of the hot weather.

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Programs

Agriculture

Agriculture Division activities continued at an increased pace during most of the month, but slowed down during the last ten days. The new Ministry of Agriculture is now concerned with its proposed budget. A five-year plan for agriculture has been drawn up and presented to the Minister, as well as a budget for the first year.

Verbal approval of the work plan for Khulais has been given by the Minister. Work will get underway when written approval has been given. The 1954 projects have been discussed and differences mediated.

Mr. Gibbs, in cooperation with Mr. Burian, has made a brief soil study of the Hofuf, Qatif and Dammam areas. This study pointed out the need for (1) irrigation water management, (2) addition of organic matter, (3) stabilization of water flow, (4) separation of crops with different moisture requirements, (5) drainage, and (6) crop rotation. In Qatif some farmers are applying 23 acre-feet of water a year. The study also showed the need for sand and dune stabilization and wind breaks.

Messrs. Barbur, Bountree and Gibbs have selected a plot on which to establish a modest crop experiment farm. In addition, plans have been made for distributing baby chicks if the purchase of chicks and feed can be arranged.

Mr. Sahsan and his counterpart made an interior trip to locate a suitable area for selecting a 40-acre plot of land for experimental work in range management. The present '54 plan is to have plots in the Khulais, Taif and Riyadh areas.

FY 54 projects have been discussed with the Ministry and agreement reached on all essential points. However, it is doubted whether these agreements will be signed by the Minister before his budget is approved by the Kingdom Council of Ministers next month. Numerous conferences were held this month with the Minister and his staff. It is believed that progress is being made and that concrete results will appear when the Ministry learns what its budget will be for the next fiscal year.

Problems facing the Division include the following:

1. Obtaining approval for the Khulais work plan.

2. Appropriate and qualified SAO counterparts.

3. Supplies, equipment and materials cannot be ordered until the 1954 project agreements are signed. This leaves little time for action.

Health and Sanitation

The base camp for the Division was established in Wadi Khulais and the malaria survey started. During February, 92 blood films were taken. This is a large number considering the fact that this is the first time anyone had been in the area and the people are generally suspicious.

Spot checks for mosquito larvae were made in 12 places. Three species of Anopheles mosquito larvae were found of which Anopheles d'thali was most common, Anopheles sergenti next, and a few Anopheles sublimus.

The blood films are being read and so far two species of malaria parasites have been found, Plasmodium vivax and P. falciparum. A preliminary report will be submitted to the Ministry of Health as soon as the blood readings are completed.

On the Quarantine Station Project, the Ministry of Health has finally agreed to proceed with the work required prior to the installation of the autoclaves, etc. A request has been sent to FOA/W to forward the disinfecting equipment for the Quarantine Station.

The Sanitary Engineer made three trips to Wadi Khulais and conducted an inspection of the household wells. It was found that a well improvement program is badly needed. Discussions are underway with the Ministry of Health on this program.

No new progress can be reported this month on the Maternal and Child Health Center. A number of buildings were inspected by our Public Health Nurse at the request of the Ministry of Health, and those found to be suitable were reported to the Ministry. However, they have taken no action as yet to secure a building for the Center.

An over-all work plan for the Division under the Rural Community Development Project in the Wadi Khulais area is being prepared for submission to the Ministry of Health.

## Education

Following suggestions made by Mr. Anderson, Vocational Education Specialist, the Jidda Industrial School has rearranged its shops. Recommendations were also made with respect to safety factors in the school. The Director of the school and instructors have evidenced a desire to install guards for certain machines as well as racks for supplies. "Operation Tin Can" has proved highly successful with many USACM/SA personnel giving discarded tin cans for the school's Sheet Metal Shop.

Tentative sketches of floor plans for a proposed new industrial school plant were prepared by Mr. Anderson. Mr. Janjoon, Director of the Industrial School, has presented his plans for the new school, together with a budget, to Prince Fahad, Minister of Education. It calls for expansion of the Industrial School as well as the establishment of industrial schools in Riyadh, Medina and the Asir.

## Natural Resources

During the month the drilling contractor completed two wells on the south side of Wadi Khulais. One well found salt water in sands of Eocene age thereby precluding the Eocene sandstone as an aquifer except under very special geologic conditions. The other well is in fresh water and the driller reports that he was unable to lower the water level below 45 feet beneath the surface of the land with his bailer. The gravel extended down to a depth of 85 feet and the water level stands at 20 feet, giving 65 feet of fresh-water saturated gravel suitable for drinking or irrigation purposes.

Calculation for the astronomical positions to prepare photo maps of the Yanbo block were completed during the month. Some map compilation on the Lith-Qunfida block were also finished.

Geologic field work to assist Mr. Dan Shafner, Mining Advisor to GAG, in the vicinity of Dhahran continued during February. Field work began on sampling of the laterite deposits in the Asir region.

A trip for the Ministry of Communications was completed in February. Reconnaissance in company with engineers of the Ministry was made from Medina northward along the abandoned Hejaz railroad to determine feasibility of rehabilitation. Geologic and water supply conditions were observed and samples of water were collected for chemical analysis. A brief report was prepared for the joint committee.

The drilling contract expired at the end of February and all rigs were at Riyadh and in the drilling compound at Jidda except for two rigs, a Joy 150 rotary and a Star 72 spudder, which were at Khulais and near Sabye in the southern Tihama.

On the last day of February it was decided to continue the drilling contract for 30 days to finish the production well at Khulais (which was down to 20 feet) and also to test two wells at Ikwad and try to complete a production well at Ikwad during March.

Transportation and Communications

The first half of the month was spent on an inspection trip of the old Hejaz railroad from Medina to Maan, Jordan, and thence on to Amman, Jordan and Damascus, Syria, where two days were spent on writing a report. This report was transmitted to the Chairman of the Joint Committee for the Rehabilitation of the Hejaz Railroad. On the committee were two members each from Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. The inspection team included engineers of the Saudi Arabian and Syrian Governments in addition to the USAOM complement of technicians composed of the Chiefs of the Transportation and Natural Resources Divisions.

b. Local Rehabilitation (Nothing to report)

c. Training

Education

Mr. Ghalib Tawfik, formerly Director of Police in Jidda, returned in February from his study in the United States under a leadership grant in police work. Upon his return he was immediately appointed Deputy of the Director General of the Security Department with headquarters in Mecca.

Five candidates for aircraft instruction have been chosen this month. It is anticipated that they will be ready to leave in March for the United States.

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Education

A conference was held with H.R.H. Prince Faisal, Minister of Education, at which were present Mr. Corson, Director USAOM/SA, the Division Chief, and members of the Committee of the Commercial School in Jidda. Progress of the school since its establishment over a year ago was discussed. The Prince was agreeably surprised at the progress made, especially in the organization of theclasses and the curriculum. He declared that the Committee should consider him as its representative to SAO and promised to do all possible to have the project agreement favorably considered at the forthcoming meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Transportation and Communications

Mr. Sinclair, Division Chief, spent three days in Beirut, Lebanon, where he held discussions regarding the installation of the Visual Omni Range air navigation facility. He also arranged for Mr. K. Albright, Civil Aviation Administration engineer, to study the location for this facility.

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. (Nothing to report)

b. (Nothing to report)

c. (Nothing to report)

d. Requests

Health and Sanitation

Dr. Sturan, Chief of the Department of Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health, requested a short preliminary report to show the need of a building and facilities in Jidda for doing necessary laboratory work. Up to the present time Dr. Butler, Malariologist, has been conducting these duties in his home, using his own equipment.

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Agriculture

The date study report by Mr. Hinson has been typed and is ready for critical evaluation. A brief summary of findings may be included in next month's report.

U.S. Agencies

Education

The U.S.I.S. films have been received from the U.S. Embassy. Several of the films (Arabic versions) were shown to Arabs, most of whom were educators and professional people. They were well received.

Work on instructional materials has been delayed pending employment of an interpreter and translator.

The Mobile Visual Aids truck is now under construction at the Industrial School, Auto Mechanics Shop.

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT IV.

Agriculture

For the past several weeks the Regional Deputy Director of FAO has been serving as head of the FAO Mission to Saudi Arabia. This gentleman is a former Minister of Agriculture for Egypt and it is rather apparent that he is advising the SAG concerning the feasibility of our proposed work at Khulais. The Division Chief USAOM/SA understands that the above official has advised against a plot of crown land selected at Khulais for testing seeds, though our soils scientist and agronomist have approved the suitability of the land and a 200 GPM supplementary water well is located in its midst. It is the opinion of the Division Chief that the Rome FAO office would not approve this official landing himself to this situation, though his intentions may be the best.

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Health and Sanitation

Dr. Lewis C. Robbins, FDA/W, visited the Division from January 30 to February 3, 1954. The FY 54 program of the Health and Sanitation Division was reviewed with him.

Education

Dr. Robert Dalley, Chief of the Division, departed on February 20, 1954 to attend a conference at AUB in Beirut on Regional Training Programs.

Harland J. Carson
Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

AIRGRAM

# FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

(2)

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## INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 3 - 7 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 3 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 3 - 5 |
| | Education | 5 |
| | Natural Resources | 5 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | |
| | Health and Sanitation | 6 |
| | TRAINING | |
| | Education | 6 - 7 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 7 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 8 - 9 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 10 |
| VI | F.A.O. MISSION IN SAUDI ARABIA | 10 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 10 - 11 |


OTHER AGENCY

Monthly Program Summary - January 1954

| AUTHORIZING OFFICER | DRAFTED BY | OFFICE | PHONE NO. | DATE |
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FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - January 1954

SECTION I. GRITIQUE

There was considerable activity during the month under review between this Mission and the respective Ministries covering negotiations of FY/54 projects in order that as many as possible of these may be completed and readied for presentation to the forthcoming meeting of the Council of Ministers scheduled for the second week of February. With the approval of that Council the respective Ministers will be authorized to execute these project agreements.

At the request of the new Ministers - Education and Agriculture - the Chief of our Education Division and the Chief of our Agriculture Division have prepared detailed organizational charts for the new Ministers, as well as job descriptions. Both Ministers have accepted wholeheartedly this material and are establishing their respective Ministries accordingly. The Chief of our Agriculture Division also prepared, at the request of the Minister of Agriculture, a five-year plan covering all phases of agriculture, including animal husbandry and poultry.

Assistance has been given by this Mission to the above Ministries, also the Ministry of Communications, in the preparation of their 54 budgets (March 1954-March 1955).

A work plan has been prepared and submitted to the respective Ministries covering a community development project at Wadi Khulais involving agriculture, health and sanitation, education and transportation (roads). Steps were initiated about the middle of January to "get the ball rolling" towards the establishment by the Saudi Government of a high ranking Planning Committee to study, prepare and implement long range development programs. This matter will be followed as closely and expeditiously as possible.

The personnel situation of this Mission still remains far from adequate. It is hoped that the Personnel Division of FOA/W will give us relief soon.

Pertinent information, data, and cost estimates have been assembled for the preparation of project agreements under economic aid. As soon as it is determined as to the authority under which such projects are to be presented to the Saudi Government, negotiations of these agreements will be initiated.

## SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

### a. Program

#### Agriculture

January has been an unusual month of progress in contrast with many months of the past. Our agronomist, R. H. Bomtree, who has been needed since the Mission began, arrived and is hard at work. Morale of the Agriculture staff is high with the opportunity in sight of being able to start wheels turning in the direction of concrete accomplishments.

Early in the month Mr. Gibbs completed the soil survey in Wadi Khulais, and he is now making a general reconnaissance survey of the Hofuf and Qatif Oases on the Persian Gulf side. Mr. Parker and his counterpart have completed plans for construction of the livestock improvement farm. In addition, an experimental pit silo has been constructed on one side of the Shaikh's farm at Khulais. The village Emir has become interested and wants to build one. If successful, this could be the beginning of a great increase in livestock production in the wadi area.

Mr. Schwan and his counterpart have initiated range vegetation plantings at Kilo 10 and in Wadi Khulais. Some 25 to 30 species of exotic forage plants will be tested and compared. Plans have been completed to begin the selection of 40-acre experimental plots in three important farming areas.

Preliminary studies have been made in Wadi Khulais by Mr. Stewart and in the Hofuf Oasis by Mr. Barham. Preparation has been made to provide equipment for cleaning out a few dug wells at Khulais. Saudis claim that sand and other debris prevent the wells furnishing much more abundant water. When an agreement or other understanding has been reached with the Ministry concerning a program of work at Khulais, activities will pick up greatly.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

#### Health and Sanitation

The Quarantine Station Project is at a standstill, with no progress made during the past month. A number of administrative items regarding the purchase of disinfection equipment and accessories have been completed but no action has been taken by the Ministry of Health to (1) obtain electricity, (2) put in a water line to the Station, (3) prepare the Disinfection Building for the equipment supplied by Point Four.

As stated in the December Report, conferences were planned with Dr. Nasif, WHO Adviser to the Ministry of Health. However, he was occupied in Mecca during this month and it was impossible to meet with him. In a meeting on December 24,

1953, with Mr. Corson, it was recommended that the Ministry of Health be informed of our position with respect to bringing the equipment to Jidda under present circumstances of lack of utilities necessary for operation. In the absence of Dr. Nazif, a meeting was arranged with Dr. Hashem on January 24, 1954 with Messrs. Corson, Hazlerton and Shrinde present. The group then visited the Quarantine Station and inspected the various buildings and facilities. Mr. Corson stressed the fact to Dr. Hashem that electricity and water facilities were absolutely essential to the operation of our equipment and Dr. Hashem indicated that he had done all that he could through letters, urging action by the Ministry. Mr. Corson then suggested that a meeting be arranged with higher officials to discuss the possibility that the Saudi Government install the water pipeline (35,000 S.R.) and purchase a 20 KW electric generator (15,000 S.R.) before the equipment is allowed to leave the United States. He indicated to Dr. Hashem the embarrassment of bringing equipment to Jidda and then not using it, letting it deteriorate in a warehouse. Dr. Hashem suggested a conference with Dr. Koshakji at the earliest opportunity, and Mr. Shrinde suggested that shipment of equipment be deferred until these negotiations are completed.

Summarizing, the status of the Quarantine Project is as follows:

1. The equipment is FAS U.S. port February 1, 1954.

2. It consists of 4 autoclaves, 2 boilers, 4 fans, a 1500 gallon tank, and a 2500 gallon tank.

3. Cost is $90,000 FAS U.S. port. Freight to Jidda will use up balance of $100,000 allotment.

4. Nothing has been done toward bringing in utilities in the seven months that Mr. Shrinde has been on the project and it appears now that the disinfection portion of the quarantine process will not operate in 1954.

5. Treatment of Jidda water to be used for the boilers is being studied. A small water softener is being considered as adequate to remove the large amount of calcium and magnesium present. The water softener was not included in the original equipment order, and will have to be purchased separately.

The Maternal and Child Health Center Project was officially signed on December 30, 1953. It is hoped to start operations soon; however, the Ministry of Health has no money budgeted in this year's current budget. Miss Potter, Chief Nurse, is informed that it will be included in the new budget due in March.

A number of conferences were held this month relative to the project. Miss Potter and health officials visited a partially completed building suitable for

housing the Center but the owner requires a year's rent in advance. The Ministry is unable to fulfill this requirement. The matter has been referred to the Director, USAGM/SA.

On January 5 a meeting was held with Dr. Rushdiah, a woman physician practicing in Mecca, who may be assigned to the project. She approved the operating plans. Dr. Rushdiah has not been back to Jidda.

An additional list of supplies was drawn up for Dr. Shuman on January 23, 1954. The Ministry will review this list and advise USAGM/SA whether it can supply the items. All basic equipment is on order and should be here by the time the building is ready.

Dr. Butler made the first field trip to Wadi Khulais January 12-14, 1954. It was mainly a trial trip to test equipment and supplies and to get a broader view of Khulais in order to better evaluate the scope of work to be done.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

**Education**

On the whole the month has shown more optimistic trends and possibilities for real service and development than any previous month. Mr. Anderson, Vocational Education Specialist, has been well received and is making a substantial contribution to the improvement of industrial training.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Natural Resources**

From January 10 to 18, 1954 the Division established astral control, and geographic and geologic mapping of a 3,500 square mile area between Yenbo and Medina.

Geological investigations (primarily mineralogical) in the Dhalm area of central Saudi Arabia was carried on from January 11 to the end of the month.

Astral program computations continued.

Compilation of geologic data on mosaics of the proposed railroad from Riyadh to Jidda were carried out.

The drilling program was supervised by USAGM/SA, with one rig drilling at 230 feet.

Preparations were made for the departure of a field party to investigate bauxite deposits in the Asir, southern Saudi Arabia.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

b. Local Participation

Health and Sanitation

In a conference with Dr. Shuman on January 16, 1954, he stated his desire to be Dr. Butler's official counterpart so that he would know of all progress made. However, he did assign a man to work with Dr. Butler, one who has had previous training in malaria. Dr. Shuman also requested that he himself accompany Dr. Butler on a full day's trip to Wadi Khulais to obtain an idea of the needs and possibilities of the program. The trip, made on January 18, accomplished the following:

1. He had confused FOA with FAO and the difference was explained.

2. His misconception that USAOM/SA was a give-away program was corrected.

3. He did not have a copy of the Rural Development Program which was furnished.

4. He suggested the Health Library Project, which is now ready for submission to Dr. Shuman and the Ministry of Health.

5. Full cooperation was given by Dr. Shuman.

On January 23, 1954, Dr. Shuman informed Dr. Butler that he had received a written order from Prince Abdullah El Faisal (Minister) for:

1. A counterpart to work at Khulais with Dr. Butler.

2. An orderly or male nurse to distribute necessary medicines.

3. Two servants to be hired at Khulais.

4. Medicines.

5. Three tents, chairs, beds, cooking equipment.

This was followed by the furnishing (Saudis) of glycerine, alcohol and formaldehyde which could not be obtained by USAOM/SA in the local market. The equipment was sent to Khulais at month's end.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

Education

With stenographic aid some eight training grant applications have been filed with FOA/W.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture

Work plans for community development in Wadi Khulais have been prepared.

Mr. R. B. Thrailkill of the USAOM Regional Locust Office arrived at the end of the month. His objective is to obtain the adherence of the Saudi Arabian Government to a Locust Control Agreement. It is contemplated that calls will be made on the FAO headquarters, the Desert Locust Control Center (British) and, of course, the Minister of Agriculture.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Education

A teacher training project is being drawn for the nationwide school program.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Natural Resources

Dr. Brown and the Program Officer worked on a draft agreement for a Meteorologic and Hydrologic Project which is contemplated under FY/54 funds.

A considerable amount of work was also devoted to the drafting of a project agreement for a water development program which calls for U. S. expenditure of $2,000,000 under Special Economic Aid.

A Contract was signed with Mikeker, Inc. for a small well drilling program.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Transportation and Communications

Mr. Sinclair, Chief of the Division, held discussions with officials preliminary to drafting the Visual Omni Range Project.

A draft of the Jizan harbor improvement project was prepared. This is under the Special Economic Aid authorization for FY/54.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. (Nothing to report)

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

Agriculture

All FY/1954 project agreements as well as a revised Agriculture Program Agreement have been written and translated. The draft agreement for Project No. 1, Livestock Improvement, has been submitted to the Ministry for review, discussion and agreement.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Education

Six conferences have been held with the Minister of Education.

The Dammam Railroad Training Project has been finalized and the agreement will be ratified shortly with the Ministry of Communications.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Implementation of Agreements

Agriculture

Project agreements for FY/1954 may not be signed by the new Minister of Agriculture until he receives approval of the Ministry budget in March. However, in the preparation of the budget, which was done by the Division at Saudi request, the cost of the agriculture program was included.

The Director General of the former Department of Agriculture may play an important role in the new Ministry. It will be necessary for him to reverse his actions of the past if he is not to be a stumbling block.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

d. Requests

Agriculture

Early in January the Department of Agriculture, which was located in the Ministry of Finance, was officially elevated to a Ministry of Agriculture. The King's brother, Prince Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz, was appointed Minister. Five meetings have been held

with the Minister. At his request, the Chief, Division of Agriculture, USAOM/SA, has submitted a complete organization chart for the new Ministry, which appears to be appropriate for the present and the next several years. It was also requested that personnel appropriate for all positions of much consequence be submitted, giving minimum training and experience for each. This has been done.

Upon further request by the Minister, assistance has been rendered in the construction of the next fiscal budget. In fact, a complete budget framework was presented for the immediate future and from a long-time standpoint. Copies of the Organization Chart and suggested personnel for the Ministry of Agriculture are being transmitted to FAS of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A third request from the Ministry asks for preparation of a Five-Year Plan for Agriculture in Saudi Arabia.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

**Education**

A personnel organization of the new Ministry was made, at the Minister's request, and given to the Minister. He adopted the plan.

A graphic representation of the organization of the Ministry has been prepared, on the Ministry's request. Duty and responsibility position specifications are being drawn and will be presented graphically and in writing.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Natural Resources**

On January 30, 1954 a field party of USAOM technicians departed from Jidda by car to make a survey of the old Medina to Ma'an railroad. This was at the request of SAG. The survey will take about two weeks.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Transportation and Communications**

The Chief of the Division, Mr. Sinclair, left Jidda on January 30, 1954 along with technicians of the Natural Resources Division, on a survey of the Medina-Ma'an railroad. This was requested by the Saudi Arabian Government.

Press reports indicate that an agreement has been reached between Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia to reopen the line. Study of a scheme to establish telephone communications between Medina and Amman via Ma'an are underway, it is reported.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

a. (Nothing to report)

b. (Nothing to report)

c. Host Government

Education

A Ministry of Education was created in Saudi Arabia with His Royal Highness Prince Fahad named the Minister.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

d. (Nothing to report)

SECTION VI. F. A. O. MISSION IN SAUDI ARABIA

The personnel of this group has been reduced during the last three months. It now has five persons in Saudi Arabia. They are:

Dr. V. A. Lateef (American) - Extension Specialist and Acting Chief.
A. Arar - Agricultural Engineer.
D. Astafieff - Surveyor.
W. Zammit - Clerk-Interpreter.

Dr. El Kilani (Egyptian) is expected soon. He will act as consultant on locust control problems and may be the new Chief of F.A. O. Mr. Johnson, former Chief, left in December for consultations in Rome and it is not expected that he will return.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

World Health Organization

There are now six or seven people in Saudi Arabia with WHO. They are about equally divided between the Anti-Malaria operations and the Venereal Disease Program. The former is expected to close down some time in March.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Local Administration

Agriculture

Another technician has been lost from the staff and it will require months for FOA/W to make a replacement.

Much valuable time is lost due to the slow servicing of vehicles under our agreement with SAG and the procurement of miscellaneous items necessary for field operations, due to difficulties in locating locally procurable items.

Another problem is raised by the fact that secretarial service is insufficient to supply the needs of the Division of Agriculture.

Finally, field housing for technicians at Wadi Khulais and the Hofuf Oasis presents a problem.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Health and Sanitation

Mr. Shrinde, Sanitary Engineer, now on the Quarantine Project, has requested a more active assignment to Wadi Khulais. There he could employ his civil engineering knowledge to good advantage to the program. It is planned to have him work there laying out contours and other survey work.

The Health Division appreciates the energy expended in obtaining equipment and supplies under existing local conditions. The entire administrative staff has worked as a team in assisting the Division.

Lack of a Chief has handicapped the Health Division. In an attempt to carry on with some coordination the present staff meets to discuss problems. This will help to keep current projects moving along, but will not adequately serve the overall program development side of the work, nor will it add to our prestige with the Ministry of Health.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

—9 POUCH
PRIORITY

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FROM : USOM/Saudi Arabia

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DESP. NO.

TO : XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.
Foreign Operations Administration

January 9, 1954
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MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - DECEMBER 1953

# FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - December 1953

## INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 - 3 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 3 - 6 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 3 - 4 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 4 |
| | Natural Resources | 5 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 5 |
| | TRAINING | 5 - 6 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 - 8 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 8 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT 4 | 8 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 8 - 9 |


TFTaylor
WEHazleton/djh
REPORTER

CONFIDENTIAL

# FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - December 1953

## SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month of December further significant political changes took place in Saudi Arabia. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz was officially appointed Minister of Agriculture, and assumed office immediately thereafter. Prince Fahed Bin Abdul-Aziz was appointed Minister of Education and assumed office immediately thereafter. Shaikh Mohammed Sorour, former Advisor to the Minister of Finance, was appointed Deputy Minister of Finance and also a member of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Shortly after the appointment of the above mentioned Ministers, the Country Director made a protocol visit to each of them, during which the technical assistance of this Mission was offered to them. They expressed gratification and stated that they would be only too glad to have us assist them in setting up their respective Ministry to be followed by discussions covering budgets, programs, projects, etc. Since these initial visits the Country Director, accompanied by Dr. Edens, Chief of our Agriculture Division, and Dr. Brown, Chief of our Natural Resources Division, called upon the Minister of Agriculture, at his request, to discuss the aforementioned plans in greater detail. The new Minister of Education has stated that within a few days he would like to get together with the Country Director and Dr. Dolley, Chief of our Education Division, for the same purpose. You will be interested to know that both of these new Ministers are most anxious to make "a showing" in their respective fields.

During the latter part of December Prince Abdullah Feisal, Minister of Interior and Minister of Public Health, signed the Maternal and Child Health Center agreement.

Since the receipt of advice from Washington notifying us that allotment of funds covering our 1954 programs had been made, we have been actively engaged in negotiating agreements with the respective Ministries of the SAG. To date satisfactory progress has been made in this direction.

We are still greatly handicapped by not having adequate personnel, particularly secretarial. We have cabled FOA/W regarding the recruitment status of personnel requested, as well as the ETA on personnel already recruited, but so far have received no reply.

Furthermore, our activities here are being held up by reason of the fact that we have not received from FOA/W the final text of diplomatic notes to be exchanged with SAG setting up the 1954 technical assistance and technical aid programs. Furthermore, the Embassy has not received the requested instructions to present the diplomatic notes, in accordance with TCA Manual dated September 1, 1953, establishing the cooperative service type of agreement for both our technical assistance and economic aid programs. We hope that the above will be

received here very soon.

(Confidential)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

A trip to Iran and Iraq was made by Mr. Otis Parker, Livestock Specialist, to observe programs of livestock improvement and to locate desirable breeds of sheep for foundation purposes. The trip was disappointing from the latter standpoint.

Mr. George Gibbs, Soils Scientist, has mapped farm lands in the Khulais Valley and determined their irrigation qualifies and, to a certain extent, soil-crop adaptability. Only about one-fifth of the farmable land is being farmed, most of the wells need cleaning out, work oxen are very scarce, and the people as a whole are very poor. Most land is of good quality and awaits a larger water supply, improved irrigation practices, better seeds, and a better cropping system.

Preliminary extension work was started in the Khulais Valley by C. Verne Stewart, Extension Specialist, and his Saudi counterpart. Thus far, work has consisted of observation and study of present situations and meeting the Emirs and farmers of the valley. This has revealed many abandoned farms, sand and trash-filled wells, scarce supply of seeds, inadequate cropping systems, considerable insect infestation, wind damage to crops, livestock lacking both in numbers and in quality, and the need for health and education facilities.

The date variety study conducted by Mr. Roy W. Nixon, Date Specialist, was completed. The most important varieties numbered five with about a dozen of secondary importance. This study should be of great value to date growers in guiding their planting programs. The report is under review and will be published in mimeographed form at an early date.

Extension work is being initiated in the Hofuf Community under direction of Mr. Fred Barham and his Saudi counterpart, Ibrihim Husseini.

Aerial photography of the Khulais Valley farming area has been completed and maps are now in process of completion. These maps will be of great assistance in community farm planning and of value in solving irrigation problems.

Soils surveys at the SAG Horticultural Station (Kilo 10) and at Kilo 40 farm were made by Messrs. Gibbs and Parker in attempting to locate a site for the Livestock Improvement Farm Project.

Mr. Herbert Schwan, Desert Range Conservationist, has been studying vegetation response to the November rains. Also plans have been laid for planting seeds at Khulais and at Kilo 10. A collection of seeds was received from Dr. Hyland of U.S.D.A. which will be used at Khulais, Kilo 10 and other selected localities. Mr. Schwan has been handicapped because of the lack of a counterpart. This has prevented visits to grazing areas and the selection of demonstration areas to be fenced.

(Unclassified)

## Health and Sanitation

The Quarantine Station Project has been progressing fairly well during the month. FOA/W reports that the equipment will arrive FAS New York by February 1, 1954. However, it is not clear whether this equipment includes four exhaust-type fans and no reply has been received to an inquiry on the matter. We can be sure, at any rate, that the disinfecting equipment will arrive in Jidda in April at the latest, and in ample time for the coming 1954 Hajj.

Early in November 1953, an engineering report was submitted to the Ministry of Health recommending a number of construction alterations to the Disinfecting Building, which would improve its general usefulness and make it more suitable for the autoclaving process. In December a meeting with Drs. Nazif, Shuman and Hashem indicated their viewpoint on the various items in the report. On items where agreement was reached Mr. Skrinde was requested by the Ministry to prepare cost estimates. These were submitted. In order to be on record as strongly urging the construction of a skylight in the Sterilization Rooms and to relieve USAOM/SA of responsibility of poor operation of the sterilizers due to improper conditions in the Disinfection Building, it was decided to meet with officials of the Ministry.

The Quarantine Station has been operating during December for the care of smallpox and meningitis patients as heretofore. Periodic trips to the Station have insured a sufficient water supply.

An inspection of the source of the Jidda water supply has been completed by Mr. Skrinde. Wadi Fatima, the source, was visited together with the Egyptian engineer who constructed the new 20 inch water pipeline. Although the water is supposedly being chlorinated, no residual chlorine could be detected in the Jidda supply at several examination points.

A report will be prepared with recommendations for improvement of the present conditions.

Dr. Butler has been working and cooperating with the WHO Malaria Team and the SAG Ministry of Health during the present emergency malaria threat to Jidda.

(Unclassified)

Natural Resources

The Division of Natural Resources worked on the following during the month:

1. Maps showing geology along the proposed Riyadh-Jidda railroad were nearly completed by the end of the month. A report to accompany the maps is in rough draft.

2. A report on a water supply for the town of Yenbo was submitted to the Ministry of Finance. It recommends that two wells at Al Marabah, 50 kilometers east of Yenbo, be used for the city supply.

3. Photo maps of the Asir-Tihama block were submitted to USGS and plans made for printing 100 copies each of about 50 quadrangles showing one degree of longitude and 30 minutes of latitude with names in Arabic and English. These are for administrative use by SAG and USOM/SA.

4. Work continued on the compilation of maps, both geographic and geologic.

5. During December three wells were completed for a water supply at the new sanitarium at Taif.

6. Two exploration wells indicating a supply of fresh water at the Darb community development were also completed.

(Restricted)

b. Local Participation

Agriculture

As yet, Mr. Schman has not been provided with a Saudi counterpart. This is seriously retarding his program of work. Many promises have been made by the Department of Agriculture but no counterpart is in sight.

Health and Sanitation

No counterpart Saudi has yet been assigned to the new Maternal and Child Health Center project. The Saudi doctor who is to work with Miss Potter, USAOM/SA Chief Nurse, has not been appointed to this assignment.

(Restricted)

c. Training

Education

One trainee grant application has been filed with FOA/W during

December. It is hoped that some five or six of these applications may be forwarded during the early part of January for consideration of FOA/W. The problem of secretarial assistance still remains the same. It is expected that some relief will be felt during the month of January.

(Unclassified)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Health and Sanitation

Miss Potter, Chief Nurse, has been preparing work plans and operations for the Maternal and Child Health Center in anticipation of the signing of the project agreement.

(Unclassified)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed

Health and Sanitation

The Maternal and Child Health Center project was signed by Prince Abdullah Feisal, Minister of Health, on December 22, 1953.

(Unclassified)

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

Agriculture

Drafts of joint cooperative project agreements covering all of the projects in the Division (Projects 1, 2 and 3) have been prepared. It is expected that negotiations with SAG on these project agreements will be started in January.

(Restricted)

Education

Much effort has been expended during the month of December in trying to secure ratification of the Commercial School Project. Copies of the project have been reviewed by all government officials who might possibly be concerned with the financing and operation of this school. The project itself is now in the hands of the Prime Minister who, according to advice of our liaison officials, must now direct the Minister of Interior to sign the project. The Ministry of Finance has authorized the expenditure of the money and certified to the fact that funds are available. It is sincerely hoped that this project may be signed within a week.

The Chief of Education has conferred with Prince Talal, Minister of Communications, twice during the month concerning the ratification of the Railroad Training Project to be developed at Dammam. The interest at both of these conferences might be expressed as a matter of concern and anxiety as to when the work might get started. The second conference was held at the King's palace in Riyadh. From Riyadh the Chief of Education accompanied the Secretary General of the Ministry of Communications to Dammam where conferences were held for several days with railroad officials including the Superintendent of Education and Training. These conferences covered general discussions of the problems and plans for the construction of a school building.

(Unclassified)

c. Implementation of Agreements

Agriculture

The Agriculture Division faces a serious situation due to the disorganized condition of the Saudi Department of Agriculture. The present Director General of Agriculture failed to get his departmental budget approved to his satisfaction last March. In April he departed for Egypt where he stayed for about six months. Upon his return he has been engaged in establishing a printing plant and has not been available at the Department of Agriculture office. The Assistant Director has been on a two months trip and has not returned. In the meantime, the Head of the Horticulture Division has been acting. However, he has made himself very scarce, possibly not wanting to make any decisions because of the present political situation.

Creation of a new Ministry of Agriculture has been announced and one of the Princes has been appointed Minister of Agriculture. It is not yet known when he will assume office.

(Confidential)

Education

The school system of Saudi Arabia has, up until the latter part of December, been operated through the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Interior, and Director General of Education. As of the last week of December, by Royal Decree, education has been removed from these Ministries and set up as a separate Ministry under His Royal Highness Fahad Bin Abdulaziz. The new Minister is reputed to be very energetic and anxious to develop a creditable school system in Saudi Arabia. Although the location of his offices has not been determined, the general feeling is that they will be located in Jidda. This will make it possible for a close collaboration with the Ministry which will prove to be a great improvement over the past arrangement. The Director General of Education has maintained his official offices in Mecca, a closed city, making it virtually impossible to carry on any cooperative enterprise through his office.

(Confidential)

d. Requests

Health and Sanitation

Dr. Shuman, Chief, Preventive Medicine in the SAG Ministry of Health requested that Dr. Butler work with him on methods by which to attack the emergency malaria threat to Jidda caused by the six inches of rainfall in November 1953.

A request was made that Dr. Butler make a bilharzia survey in Wadi Fatima. However, the Ministry has not yet supplied the equipment necessary for the operation.

(Unclassified)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

d. Technical Reports

Agriculture

A report on the date study made by Mr. Nixon is now under review and will be mimeographed in 200 copies for distribution.

(Unclassified)

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT 4

Nothing to report.

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Local Matters of Organization

Agriculture

Vehicles (Jeep station wagons) for agricultural technicians, ordered in February 1953, arrived some two months ago but Customs still holds them because an embargo was placed on Jeeps after the latter were shipped.

The secretarial situation is maddening. The Chief Agriculturist has been in this country for more than a year without the assistance of a secretary. Only typing is available in a very limited quantity. Everything typed must be written in longhand first. Many replies to letters and other matters, perforce, must go unattended which is embarassing to persons who, in the past, have attempted to conduct business at least on a minimum respectable level.

(Restricted)

## Health and Sanitation

Requisitions for field equipment necessary for investigations of malaria in Wadi Khulais were submitted October 22, 1953. However, only four of 43 articles listed have been received through local purchase.

A requisition for supplies needed on the MCH Center, prepared on November 24, 1953, has not yet been sent to FOA/W. This may further delay the start of the project.

(Restricted)

## Natural Resources

Drilling for water, which has been carried on by government contractors, ceased during the month. A new contract has been made between SAG and a German firm, vice Baker's. The relations between the Natural Resources Division and the new contractors were not clear at the end of the month.

(Restricted)

## Transportation and Communications

Inasmuch as Mr. Edward F. Sinclair, Chief, was Acting Executive Officer for three weeks during December, there is nothing to report in this sector.

Thelbert F. Taylor
Acting Director
U.S. Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH
FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

FROM : US Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia TOUSFO A-18
DESP. NO.

TO : Foreign Operations Administration

DATE December 6, 1953

REF :

| For Dept. Use Only | ACTION | DEPT. |
|---|---|---|
| | REC'D | INFO OTHER |

SUBJECT:

Monthly Program Summary - November 1953

# FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - November 1953

## INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 6 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 3 - 4 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 4 |
| | Education | 5 |
| | Natural Resources | 5 |
| | Public Administration | 5 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 5 |
| | TRAINING | 6 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 7 - 8 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 8 - 9 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 9 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 9 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 10 |


JBode
WJHazleton/c

REPORTER

CONFIDENTIAL

# FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - November 1953

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month under review there were a number of significant political changes which took place here in Saudi Arabia. On November 9 King Ibn Saud died. Immediately prior to his death a decree was issued establishing a Cabinet of Ministers over which the Crown Prince is to preside. Such Cabinet will handle all major matters of state and will pass on all domestic and foreign agreements. A Ministry of Communications was established headed by Prince Talal, which Ministry was formerly under the Ministry of Finance. It is reported that a Ministry of Agriculture (formerly under the Ministry of Finance) and a Ministry of Education (formerly under the Ministry of Interior) has been established although official pronouncement has not been made. It is further reported that a Ministry of Public Works (new) and a Ministry of Public Health (formerly under the Ministry of Interior) will be established in the near future. These changes indicate that the power formerly held by the Ministry of Finance, also the Ministry of Interior, has been and will be appreciably curtailed, thereby throwing more power into the Cabinet.

Shaikh Abdullah Suleiman, Minister of Finance, and Prince Abdullah Feisal, Minister of Interior, returned to Saudi Arabia shortly before the King's death and remained at their posts all during the month of November.

Programwise there was very little activity during the month of November due to the fact that although FY-54 budget approval was received, we still have not received the covering allotment of funds. It is to be regretted that five months of the FY-54 period have passed without our having been able to initiate our FY-54 programs. Such prolonged delays do considerable harm to the prestige of USAOM among Saudi Government officials. It is hoped that in future years such delays will not be encountered.

The FY-55 budget was sent to Washington last month covering many programs which I considered to be of vital interest to Saudi Arabia in the different fields of technical assistance and economic aid.

We are proceeding as rapidly as possible with preparatory investigations on the Khulais Community Development Project and we hope that during the next month we will be in a position to present such project - under the Community Development Agreement - to SAG for their consideration and approval so that work can be started without further delay.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

### a. Progress

**Agriculture**

November has witnessed considerable activity. Much time has been spent on constructing, enlarging and refining the 1955 budget as well as making more detailed plans for the current year, the budget for which was approved by FOA/W a short time ago.

Soil surveys have been started at the Kilo Ten Experimental Station and in the Khulais Community area. Plans have been made to begin extension work at Khulais when a counterpart for Mr. Stewart can be furnished by the Department of Agriculture. Additional wells have been drilled at Khulais and El Darb where fair showings have been made.

Mr. Otis Parker made a trip to Iraq and Iran to study livestock breeding programs. It is unofficially announced that a Ministry of Agriculture has been established by SAG. During the month Messrs. Parker, Schaan and Stewart completed a trip to central and eastern Saudi Arabia where they reviewed agricultural conditions in general.

Mr. Fred A. Barham, newly arrived Agricultural Extension Specialist, is now engaged in assembling materials for initiating his work at Hofuf in Al Hasa Province. Mr. Nixon's study of date varieties nears completion. His report will be submitted shortly. A recent visit was made by the Chief of the Division to review the entire date research study.

Mr. Gibbs has begun a soils survey at the Kilo Ten Horticulture Experiment Station where he finds a high water table and plant nutrients are not available in proportions suitable for healthy plant growth and fruit production. However, he feels that the Station is a good location for studying fertiliser response, use of green manures, compost, and water management. Mr. Gibbs' initial work at Khulais leads him to believe that the community has at least 2,000 acres of good arable land and that farmers are now irrigating only a very small amount of this land.

The trip by Messrs. Parker, Schaan and Stewart to Central and Eastern Saudi Arabia took them over 1840 miles of all types of roads and into some of the most important farming and grazing sections. Their observations are proving valuable as planning turns to activity in concrete programs of extension work, livestock improvement and range revegetation. Mr. Parker's trip to Iraq and Iran was for the purpose of studying livestock breeding and production programs under Point 4 leadership. He found that native foundation stock was not an improvement over livestock in Saudi Arabia and that purebred sires were being imported from the U.S.

Under direction of the Natural Resources Division, two additional wells have been drilled in the Khulais community, somewhat nearer cultivable land and two more have been drilled at El Darb. The latter are reported as good producers, and of good water. Additional wells are planned.

A trip was made by the Chief Agriculturist to Al Hasa to review the date study made by Mr. Nixon. Work has gone according to plan and Mr. Nixon will

return to the U.S. on December 16. While at Dhahran and Dammam an effort was made to find living quarters for technicians to be stationed in that area. Only one two-bedroom apartment could be located, which was at Dammam, and the price was SR 15,000 a year in advance.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Health and Sanitation

Some minor changes were made in the specifications for the equipment for the Quarantine Station Project and an obligation number in the amount of $90,000 was sent to purchase the equipment. Mr. Skrinde and his counterpart submitted plans and specifications for making the necessary changes in the building where the equipment is to be installed. Also a brief engineering report was submitted to the Ministry for the installation of a water line to the Station.

Residual chlorine tests are being run on the water hauled to one of the apartment houses where some technicians are living. The tests indicate that the chlorinating procedure is satisfactory.

At the request of the Chief of Preventive Medicine in the Ministry of Health, Miss Potter, Chief Nurse, began classes in Maternal and Child Health for nurses now experienced, because there was insufficient time to obtain proper teaching aids; then the classes were interrupted by the death of the King; next, it was found that the lectures had to be given in Arabic, Amharic, and Italian. In addition, the room made available for these classes was far from satisfactory. Finally, the Chief of Preventive Medicine requested that the classes be temporarily postponed because a Project Agreement was not signed yet, and he was being subjected to pressure in the Ministry to stop the classes until an agreement was signed. The classes have been suspended, but in the meantime Miss Potter is making the necessary preparations so that if classes are begun again, sufficient teaching material will be available.

A requisition for necessary medical equipment and supplies for operation of a Maternal and Child Health Center has been prepared. If the Project Agreement is ever signed, an obligation number will be cabled to FOA/W to purchase the equipment and supplies.

During the month excessive rains fell in Jidda, and therefore all the many depressions were filled with water, making some excellent breeding places for mosquitoes. Since the WHO Malaria Control Team was busy in Wadi Fatima, Dr. Butler has been assisting the Ministry make a mosquito survey and institute control measures. Dr. Butler did not take the lead in this, but persuaded the Ministry to do so.

The Malaria and Bilharzia surveys planned for Wadi Khulais were held up because of delays in purchase of local equipment for Dr. Butler. Other supplies have been requisitioned in the U.S.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## Education

Activity of the Education Division during the month of November has consisted mostly of writing a project to cover railroad trade training for the Ministry of Communications, preparing the supporting information and justification for the review of FOA/W, working over the FY-55 budget, conferring with officials of SAG and working on training grant applications.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

## Natural Resources

Two production wells for the City of Yenbo were completed in Yenbo. Mr. Goudarzi supervised pumping tests of these wells and analyzed the water samples. These wells should insure a satisfactory Yenbo city water supply.

Mr. Goudarzi supervised a pumping test on a well at Wejj. This well is being considered for supplying the village of Wejj.

Work was continued by Mr. Goudarzi on the geological reports and maps dealing with the proposed Jidda-Riyadh railroad.

Mr. Bogue completed the report, in collaboration with Mr. K. S. Twitchell, of the Zalm (Dhalm) Gold-Silver Mine.

An inspection and reconnaissance trip was made south of Jidda, along the coastal plain, to Qizan. Well locations for a Lith city water supply were made. Two wells were completed during the month. Pumping tests have not been made, but the water appears to be fresh and sufficient. A series of locations were picked in the Qunfida-Hali region for a proposed drilling program there. An inspection was made of the Darb region. Two fresh water wells were completed and an additional location was picked. All wells completed in this region have produced water satisfactory for irrigation purposes.

The drilling program under the Division's supervision continues in the Taif region. Wells number 5 and 6 were completed in the Khulais region.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## Public Administration

Dr. John Dunaway departed for the U.S. on November 10. Since he was the only technician in the Division, no activity has been carried on.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

Health and Sanitation

The Ministry has been quite slow in providing the necessary utilities for the Quarantine Station, but they have been taking some steps in that direction lately. Mr. Skrinde's counterpart is still doing a good job in preparing details on necessary changes at the Station.

The Chief of Preventive Medicine has been doing all that he can to get the Maternal and Child Health Project Agreement operating, but we are holding this up because of lack of funds.

We have a feeling that the Ministry is willing to cooperate and participate in projects with us, but we have not been showing much leadership, because of lack of funds and personnel.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

Health and Sanitation

See comments under Maternal and Child Health Project. The Ministry is still waiting for USOM/SA to tell them what information we have about the possibility of providing public health training in Arabic in nearby countries.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Education

In addition to other assistance, the Ministry of Finance has furnished the Education Division with a full time translator. Funds can not be spent by the Mission to supply this service which has during the past months been a serious handicap. Eight training grant applications are in process of preparation due to this added assistance. Most of these will be ready for submission to FOA/W during the early part of December.

One trainee was scheduled for departure to the U.S. on November 21. Request through the Mission for advance of funds for travel and visa was made October 13. However, as of the 25th, advice from the grantee is to the effect that he is still waiting for this service through the Cairo Embassy. It is hoped that he will be able to depart soon, since his training was scheduled to start December first.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

### Agriculture

Developments have been slow due to the fact that the current fiscal year budget was approved only about ten days ago. As yet, the first quarterly allotment under this budget has not been received. The prospects for accomplishing much this year are becoming small. However, it is still possible to get much work started.

Continuation projects have been planned for FY-55 with the addition of more projects, including the establishment of an agricultural school. Two technicians, Messrs. Stewart and Schwan, have not been furnished with Saudi counterparts. This is a critical situation. I know of only one Saudi in the entire country who is possibly trained sufficiently to serve as a fair counterpart to one of our technicians. There seems to be a determined effort not to place trained personnel from other countries in counterpart or important places for training leaders.

The Khulais Community Development Project Agreement should be consummated this month and Mr. Stewart has been assigned as Agricultural Extension Specialist to this community. An irrigation engineer is needed very badly to team with Messrs. Stewart, Gibbs, Schwan and Parker in developing a well-rounded project agreement. The Agriculture Division does not have sufficient vehicles for the men ready for action, though a requisition for vehicles was submitted as early as February of this year.

It appears that Saudi Arabia is to have a Ministry of Agriculture. To date (since 1949, when established) the Department of Agriculture has existed within the framework of the Ministry of Finance. The present Director of the Department of Agriculture has been absent from his office for about six months and the Assistant Director is impotent. Consequently, a change will be welcomed. An official announcement establishing the Ministry of Agriculture is expected at an early date.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

### Health and Sanitation

A further revision of the FY-55 budget was prepared and submitted to the Director.

The development of the Maternal and Child Health Project Agreement was discussed under Operations Summary because it is almost in that stage even though no agreement is yet signed.

There is an urgent need for the Division to receive its FY-54 allotment. It is next to useless to continue to discuss with the Ministry the development of a program until we produce on the projects that have been discussed in the past.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Education**

The Transportation project (industrial training), along with all supporting documentation, went forward some time ago. However, the FY-54 allotments for the current fiscal year have not yet been made and it is doubtful if the project can be approved by FOA/W until that has been done. In the meantime it is probable that interest in the project will have passed before authority to move can be secured, much in the same manner that the Commercial School Project has fared. The latter was rewritten ten times before submission to TCA/W, rewritten in Washington, and rewritten five times since, due largely to changing governmental personnel in these last five instances. The SAG indicated it was ready to sign the first version last February and several versions since. However, interest in signing now is normal and it is likely with a new Minister of Education just being appointed that the project will have to be reworked once more.

This would be a relatively simple task since it has been done so many times except that without stenographic assistance it becomes tedious. Unless some authority to make contractual arrangements directly in the field can be made, there is little hope for change in the rather standardized routine of operational experience and procedure. The Ministry of Communications has its money ready for a cooperative service project but they can hardly be expected to hold it ready for an extended period.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Transportation and Communications**

Discussions were held during November with General Grover, Chief of the USAF Base at Dhahran, regarding the installation of visual omni-range equipment on the Jidda airfield. This is a proposed FY-54 project. It is planned to hold a meeting next month in Beirut where a decision will be made on the make and type of visual omni-range to be installed. The equipment to be installed on the Jidda airport will therefore be standardized with other installations in the region.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed.

None.

b. Agreements under Current Negotiation

Jidda Commercial School.
Dammam Industrial Training School.

c. Implementation of Agreements

Nothing to report.

d. Requests

Health and Sanitation

The Ministry has asked for a Bilharzia Survey to be made in the Wadi Fatima area. This request will not be developed into a separate project but will be used as a lever to get the Ministry to establish a section of Vector Disease Control, and include in it such things as Bilharzia Control, Dengue Fever Control, Plague and Typhus Control, etc. However, the request will be honored when the Ministry provides some of the necessary equipment for the survey. In the meantime, some necessary supplies are being ordered from the States.

The Ministry requested that the Mission make available a technician to accompany one from the Ministry, one from WHO and from ARAMCO to survey an area in northern Arabia and make recommendations for Malaria control. This request will be honored when the time is set by the Ministry for the trip to take place, along the lines expressed in the above paragraph.

Another request was made by the Ministry for aid in solving the drainage problem in Jidda. It was pointed out that this was a big problem affecting many people, and therefore careful plans must first be laid and all concerned consulted. However, we offered to help in solving this important health problem.

A request was received for assistance in setting up a training course for sub-professional personnel of the Ministry. Since the WHO is also interested in the project, it was suggested that WHO also be present for the discussions.

All of these requests were made verbally by the Chief of the Preventive Medicine Division of the Ministry. The number of requests indicate that the Ministry is accepting us and they believe we may be useful to the Ministry.

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR

Health and Sanitation

The WHO Malaria Control Team's tour of duty will end March 15, 1954, and it is already planning for departure because it must first make a survey in the Gizan area before it leaves the country. The team was sent here to train local personnel in malaria control work and has worked hard toward this end.

Little effort has been made to integrate this work into the administration of the Ministry and as a result we believe unless a program can be developed with the Ministry before the WHO Team leaves, the malaria work will be discontinued and the personnel distributed to the various hospitals in the Ministry, or their services terminated.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Health and Sanitation

The following is not a complaint but simply a statement of fact: The Health Program is being seriously retarded because of (1) lack of funds, (2) lack of secretarial help, (3) insufficient technicians, and (4) inadequate transportation.

Education

Apparently these monthly reports are not read and serve as perfunctory activity since there is never an acknowledgment of the consideration of any problem material in them. Clerical assistance has gone from five to two secretaries in the Mission, with one of these asking for transfer. Reports are that no secretaries will come to Saudi Arabia because of the hard living conditions.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Natural Resources

The relations between USOM/SA, Baker and SAG have been of prime concern to the Division during the month. USOM/SA has been informed that the contract for the SAG Water Resources Division of Baker has been awarded the German concern effective January 1, 1954. Information concerning these problems is contained in other communications.

John Bode
Acting Director
U.S. Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

AIR POUCH

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

~~FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH~~
FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

FROM : FOA/Jidda

TOUSFO A-34

DESP. NO.

TO : ~~THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON~~
Foreign Operations Administration

November 10, 1953

DATE

REF :

| For Dept. Use Only | ACTION | INFO | DEPT. |
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SUBJECT:

## FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - October 1953

### INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 5 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 2 - 3 |
| | Education | 4 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 3 - 4 |
| | Natural Resources | 4 |
| | Public Administration | 5 |
| | Transportation & Communications | 4 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 5 |
| | TRAINING | 5 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 5 - 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 - 7 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 7 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 7 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 8 |


Monthly Program Summary - October '53

HJCorson
WJHazleton/djh

REPORTER

CONFIDENTIAL

FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - October 1953

SECTION I. CRITIQUE

Mr. Harland J. Corson, the new Director, arrived October 8, accompanied by Mr. Willis B. Hazleton, Program Officer. Mr. Thelbert F. Taylor, new Executive Officer, arrived on October 25.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Several meetings were held by the Director and the Program Officer with the respective Division Chiefs for the purpose of reviewing the FY 54 Budget Estimates and preparing concrete plans for carrying out the respective programs under that budget so that as little time as possible will be lost in getting them under way when the FY 54 Budget is approved and covering allotments set up. During such meetings, the FY 55 Budget Estimates and Programs were not only reviewed but also revised. The Revised Estimates will be sent to FOA/W the early part of November.

During the month under review, Shaikh Abdullah Suleiman, Minister of Finance, remained absent from Saudi Arabia; likewise, Prince Abdullah El Feisal, Minister of Health and Interior. It is expected that both of these Ministers will return to their posts the early part of November.

Program-wise, there was very little activity during October. It is hoped that the approval of the FY 54 budget will not be delayed much longer. Abdul Aziz, Acting Deputy Minister of Finance, repeatedly inquires as to the status of the approval of the FY 54 budget as he is anxious to know what amount should be included in his budget for next year corresponding to the agreed upon contribution of each Ministry for carrying out the U.S.-SAG cooperative services programs. Inability to give him any concrete information has been most embarrassing.

The Director and the Program Officer, together with several Division Chiefs and technicians, visited Wadi Khulais—about 75 miles north of Jidda—for the purpose of formulating plans for carrying out a Community Development Project there. Arrangements are being made for a trip to the Tihama area—southern coastal plain along the Red Sea—next month, where it is planned to execute the second and most important Community Development Project. Project agreements, following the cooperative service form, will be prepared and discussed with SAG. A copy of each proposed final agreement will be sent to FOA/W for approval prior to execution.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

An observation and study trip of three weeks duration was made by Messrs. Parker, Schwan and Stewart, covering a part of Central Saudi Arabia and part of the Persian Gulf area from El Kharj to Qatif. The team inspected types of crops and livestock.

Mr. George P. Gibbs, Soils Scientist, arrived October 12 and is now engaged in assembling materials to begin a soil survey of the Wadi Khulais area, where our first community development work will be effected.

Mr. Nixon reports satisfactory progress on the date study in the Persian Gulf area. Harvest is about completed and more attention is being given to cultural problems.

Mr. Parker has been working with the Ministry of Agriculture on the plans for the Livestock Improvement Farm in Wadi Fatima, about 25 miles east of Jidda.

Altogether nine new projects are proposed for FY 1955. Expansion of the livestock improvement project in FY 1955 will include Riyadh, in addition to new projects for water spreading on ranges, a range demonstration project, and one for dipping of livestock. A land drainage project for Qatif is contemplated in FY 1955 as well as a project for improvement in vegetable production.

Mr. William R. Mabee, Director, Regional Locust Control Program, visited this Mission October 13 and 14. Discussions were held with officials of the Agriculture Department and Finance Ministry regarding locust control in Saudi Arabia.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Health**

Estimates of the equipment for the quarantine station were studied. Some changes will be recommended. Mr. Skrinde and his counterpart completed an estimate of cost of making the necessary changes in the building for disinfection.

A plan of operation for the health phase in the Community Development Project at Wadi Khulais has been prepared. Surveys for malaria, bilharzia and other diseases will be carried out.

There is a rumor that the isolation section of the quarantine station will be closed. Facilities have not yet been installed in the station. Equipment and unused chemicals have been returned to the Ministry. This was part of the material loaned the Ministry for its fly control program during the Hadj.

Miss Potter, Public Health Nurse, arrived on October 5 and is preparing for her work under the Maternal and Child Health Center in Jidda.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## Education

Dr. Dolley, Division Chief, accompanied Prince Talal, Minister of Communications, on an inspection tour of the Saudi Government Railroad early in October. This trip was taken to study technical training program for that railroad. A project is being prepared for such program.

The Commercial School in Jidda is holding classes with one teacher. It is anticipated that a project agreement will be signed shortly, whereby the activities of this school will be considerably enlarged to meet demands for commercial training.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## Natural Resources

Geological mapping of a section of the proposed Jidda-Riyadh railroad route from Jidda to Medina was completed.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Reports were prepared covering the geology of the proposed railroad route, Jidda-Riyadh, also the Zalm mining district. An examination of the Zalm Mines was conducted, upon request of the Acting Deputy Finance Minister, in collaboration with Mr. K. S. Twitchell, adviser to the Office of Mines and Companies, Ministry of Finance.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Water development was supervised in the following communities: Yenbo, Lith, Qizan, FAO camp site (Tihama), Taif sanitarium and Khulais. Visits were made to the Yenbo-Nakhel drilling operations and one completed well was examined and test pumped.

The mapping program was continued of several sections of western Saudi Arabia.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

## Transportation and Communications

The Chief of the Division served as Acting Executive Officer during the entire month.

Two conferences were held with Prince Talal's secretary on the problem of inspection and inventory of road equipment formerly the property of a local contractor, Bin Ladin.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Public Administration

During this period Mr. Dunaway was the only technician on duty and he was fully occupied as Acting Director until October 9.

Several conferences were held with the members of the Customs Committee but the two top-ranking officials, the Inspector General and the Director General, were out of the city. The "bill of entry" on which the most important improvements in customs administration depend, has not yet been printed but the Committee reports that proofs have been corrected. The new procedure, which the use of the bill of entry will make possible, was outlined and discussed with the Committee and a regulation governing the use of the bill of entry and certified invoice was drafted. Both documents are being translated.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

Nothing new to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

Four grantees were processed for departure to the United States during the month. This brings the total number of grantees in training in America to 21. One additional trainee is scheduled for departure in November.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture

Activation of the Community Development Project has been discussed with this Division as well as the Health and Natural Resources Divisions. The Director, Program Officer and members of three Divisions, accompanied by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, inspected the Wadi Khulais area, where several water wells have already been drilled, with an output of about 1100/gpm. The purpose of this trip was to ascertain the respective steps necessary to carry out the first part of the Community Development Plan. Mr. George Gibbs, Soils Scientist, will begin a soil survey within a few days to determine the amount of arable land, check the soil and make soil maps of the area. A Saudi counterpart has been assigned. Arrangements have already been made with the local Emir for carrying out the work.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Health**

Miss Potter, Chief Public Health Nurse, arrived this month and discussions were held with the Ministry about the Jidda Maternal and Child Health Center project agreement. Further discussions have been postponed until budget approval is received.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Education**

The Division has kept in constant touch with the Ministry of Communications and has made suggestions relative to a technical training program that will reduce current excessive costs and assure a source of qualified replacements not only for railroad operation but also for other fields of activity. These suggestions have been accepted. A suggested cooperative joint fund project to accomplish this training also has been accepted.

An agreement, along cooperative service lines, is being prepared to cover this training program and will be sent to FOA/W the early part of next month for approval. It will call for $75,000 U.S. funds and $135,000 SAG funds. However, lack of funds in the FY 54 budget has required consolidation of most unobligated funds for Education to make $75,000 available for the project. The Minister of Communications is ready to deposit his initial contribution of at least $75,000 to the project, in addition to other items in kind. A more valuable and logical project for the development of technical education in Saudi Arabia could not be found. It is significant in setting a pattern for broader country-wide type of Cooperative Service Agreements. It is among the first that guarantees a substantial cash contribution to a joint fund from SAG.

The Commercial School Project of Jidda, which could not be ratified until return to Saudi Arabia of the Minister of Interior, may be signed soon. Negotiations for the contribution of SAG funds are well advanced, now that the Minister has returned.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Transportation and Communications**

Two conferences with Prince Talal were held relating to establishment of a Department of Public Works for Saudi Arabia, using as a nucleus the equipment which reverted to SAG from the local contractor, Bin Ladin.

SECTION IV. **AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS**

a. **Agreements Executed.**

None.

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

Jidda Commercial School Agreement
Dammam Industrial Training School.

c. Implementation of Agreements

Nothing to report.

d. Requests

Proposals are under discussion in the fields of Agriculture, Health, Education, Transportation and Communications.

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing to report.

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT 4

Fertilizer Plant

In a conference held by the Director with Abdul Aziz, Acting Deputy Finance Minister, the matter of the Ammonium Sulphate Fertilizer Plant was discussed. Abdul Aziz stated that he had received word already that four European firms intend to bid on such plant, on its operation and on handling the sale of the output (400,000 tons/annum). He further stated that SAG is prepared to finance up to one-half the cost of the plant, i.e. up to $30,000,000.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

FAO

Mr. Theodore C. Carlson, FAO Marketing Specialist, conferred with the Program Officer relative to his operations and the duration of his program. The Director, USAOM/SA, discussed the FAO Program with Mr. W. Fred Johnson, Chief of Field Party.

WHO

The following persons from WHO visited the USAOM/SA Health and Sanitation Division to discuss malaria control and other subjects of common interest:

Dr. Pampana, Chief, Malaria Section, WHO, Geneva.
Dr. Mohammed Nasir, WHO Public Health Adviser to SAG.
Dr. Zahar, WHO Entomologist on the Malaria Control Team, Jidda.
Dr. Hashem, General Director of Quarantine of the Ministry of Health.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The problem confronting every Division is the prolonged delay in the FY 54 budget approval.

Harland J. Corson
Director
U.S. Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

Mr. Program Summary
Sept

Jidda, October 10, 1953.

Dear John:

I have some doubts regarding the phrasing of the first section of this Program Summary and wonder if the attached suggestions for re-draft meets with your approval?

Sincerely,

John A. Dunaway, Esquire,
Foreign Operations Administration,
J i d d a.

Note: Pages 2 + 3 rewritten, per suggestions

AIR POUCH

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH
FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

FROM : FOA/Jidda

TOUSFO A-6
DESP. NO.

TO : Foreign Operations Administration
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

October 4, 1953
DATE

REF :

| For Dept. Use Only | ACTION | INFO | DEPT. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | REC'D | | OTHER |

SUBJECT:

FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - September 1953

INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 - 3 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 3 - 6 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 3 - 4 |
| | Education | 4 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 4 |
| | Natural Resources | 4 |
| | Public Administration | 5 |
| | Transportation & Communications | 5 - 6 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 6 |
| | TRAINING | 6 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 - 7 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 7 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 7 - 8 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 8 |


Monthly Program Summary - Sept. 1953

JADunaway
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REPORTER

CONFIDENTIAL

## FOA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - September 1953

### SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month it was announced that Mr. Harland J. Corson had been appointed Country Director. He is expected to arrive during the first week in October accompanied by Mr. Willis B. Hazleton, Program Officer.

Much time was spent by the Director, his staff and Division Chiefs working on the FY-54 and FY-55 Operating Programs and Budget Estimates.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

At the beginning of the month, announcement was made of the formation of a new Ministry of Communications--headed by Prince Talal. As far as is now known the new Ministry will not deal with civil aviation which, it is believed, will remain under the Ministry of Defense, headed by Prince Misha'al. Most of the functions allotted to the new Ministry were formerly exercised by the Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Jones, Charge d'Affaires, and the Acting Director held a series of conferences with the Minister of Finance on the general subject of economic aid to Saudi Arabia from the special fund appropriated for Near Eastern countries. In the course of the conferences, the Minister outlined some twenty-five projects which he stated SAG intended to undertake in the immediate future and stated further that SAG would welcome financial aid for any or all of them. These conferences have been more fully reported in a recent Embassy Despatch.

Relations with SAG were handicapped by the fact that during the month the Finance Minister departed for Beirut and was expected to be gone for from three to four months. Shaikh Abdullah has been one of the main proponents of TCA in the Government and, up to now, his approval has been necessary on virtually all agreements involving funds. In his absence, his son, Abdul Aziz, and his nephew, Suleiman al-Hamad, are in charge of the Ministry. Neither, however, has authority commensurate to that of the Minister of Finance himself, in whose absence it is sometimes difficult to obtain necessary Government action on TCA programs and projects. Another complicating factor in this situation is the continued absence of Prince Abdullah al-Feisal, Minister of Health and Interior, who has been out of the country since June and is not expected to return before the end of October. It has been rumored that Prince Abdullah may be relieved of one of his portfolios upon his return to the country. His absence means that, for the moment, the Ministry of Health lacks effective leadership. Currently, Syrian doctors employed by the Government are making strenuous efforts to eliminate the Egyptian, Italian, and French doctors more recently engaged. The employment of Germans is gaining favor, with this policy being carried out in Government military hospitals in Taif, Riyadh, and Al Kharj. These hospitals are staffed, or will be staffed, by Germans. While the Director General of Health is still nominally in charge of the Ministry of Health, actual conduct of the Ministry's affairs is, at the

moment, exercised by a Syrian doctor, Bashir al-Rooni, who holds the rank of Deputy Minister of Health and is, in addition, personal physician to the wife of Prince Abdullah's father, Prince Feisal. The Directorate of Education, which comes under Prince Abdullah al-Feisal's jurisdiction, is also suffering from a lack of positive leadership.

The Director General of Agriculture who is under the control of the Finance Minister has either been out of the country or when in Saudi Arabia does not go to his office at the department. Whether or not he intends to continue in his position is not known. The Department has suffered considerably under his directorship through lack of effective leadership and his present virtual abandonment of his post has contributed even further to its ineffectiveness. Abdul Aziz, the Acting Deputy Minister of Finance, is available for consultation re department matters. However, his youthfulness and many other duties have made him ineffective even in such simple matters as employing a man to act as a Saudi counterpart for TCA agricultural work.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

A reconnaissance survey was made in the Jidda area relative to livestock numbers, type and breeds, feed problems, range and re-vegetation conditions and farming in general by Parker, Schwan and Stewart.

Preparations were made for an extensive observation trip planned by these three technicians. They will leave Jidda the 5th or 6th of October and will go through central and eastern Arabia. They will study and observe range conditions and vegetation with the view towards later work on range management. Such matters as livestock conditions and possibilities of improvement, crops, irrigation technique and farming practices will also be observed.

Mr. Stewart and family arrived in Jidda on September 5th. Mr. Moon, hospitalized in Germany following an accident in Saudi Arabia, has recuperated. His doctors state he may return to duty but advise against his returning to Arabia due to the severity of the dust conditions.

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

The date study by Mr. Nixon continues according to plan.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Education**

Due to a serious lack of teachers several members of the School Committee have agreed to assume temporarily teaching and operational responsibilities. The Commercial School reopened after the Hadj on schedule.

A conference with Abdul Aziz, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, was held to discuss the country-wide development project. A conference was held with Prince Talall to discuss training railroad employees and also to send some trainees to the United States.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Health**

Work was continued by Skrinde in cooperation with Saudi Health personnel on plans and specifications to renovate the disinfecting building. He and Butler also assisted Saudi officials in planning the interior layout of the Quarantine Station laboratory building.

Plans and specifications for hospital and sanatoria construction were loaned to the Swedish architect who is designing a sanatorium which is to be built at Taif by the Health Ministry.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

**Natural Resources**

The geologic investigations at Lith, started in August, were completed early in September. Sites for well drilling have been designated but drilling operations were delayed due to the employment of the drillers at other sites.

Field trips to check on drilling operations were made to the Taif and Khulais areas. A trip was made to Yenbo-Medina area to check on drilling in Yenbo-Nalchl and to complete geologic mapping on that section of the Riyadh-Jidda rail line.

With the completion and testing of two wells producing almost 500 gallons and 200 gallons per minute respectively in Wadi Khulais, it is expected that intensive development work on agricultural projects in that wadi will begin shortly.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

Public Administration

Many conferences were held by Mr. Kennedy with customs authorities and officials of the Ministry of Finance on various phases of the plans for improvement of the administration of customs. Agreement was reached with the customs officials on a solution to the valuation difficulties encountered by the Customs Administration.

Discussions with Sheikh Abdul Aziz indicated his dissatisfaction with the present practice of placing responsibility for loss or damage to goods while in Customs' custody on shipping agents. However, no positive action has yet been taken. The question of holding up the issuance of new customs regulations drawn up by customs officials has not been decided. Mr. Kennedy has urged that a detailed study be made before any new regulations are issued.

The English edition of the tariff and commodity index was mimeographed and turned over to SAG for distribution. Special attention was given to the new "bill of entry" and the new procedure which its use will entail. Customs officials say the bill is being printed in Mecca.

Mr. Kennedy and family left Jidda during the latter part of the month on home leave. It is not known at this point if he is returning to Jidda or taking a new assignment.

(RESTRICTED)

Transportation & Communications

On September 17, Mr. Dumaway and Mr. Sinclair held a conference with Prince Talall, Minister of the newly-created Ministry of Transportation & Communications, at which matters coming under the Prince's authority were discussed. He was informed that the present TCA budget contains no money for transportation or communication projects such as fall under his jurisdiction. It was explained that the proposed Visual Omni Range Equipment project for possible installation at the Jidda Airport came under the Ministry of Defense.

The proposed allocations of money from the Special Economic Aid fund was explained to the Prince. It was stated that priority would probably be given to water development -- a highway from Taif to Abha, a dam at Abha for irrigation, development of harbor facilities at Gizan and improvements to certain airports.

He was informed that the Finance Minister was interested in having a merchant marine expert come and make a study of organizing and operating a merchant marine fleet. The Prince showed interest in this pro-

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

posal although he said that perhaps this expert could be held up until engineers for highway construction and telephone communications were recruited.

The Prince manifested doubt as to the economic feasibility of building the Riyadh-Jidda railroad. He thought the money would be better employed if spent on the construction of highways, communication facilities, improvement of shipping facilities, etc. He inquired as to TCA's opinion in this matter. He was told that the TCA-RR survey did not imply that the proposition was economically sound. Mr. Dunaway stated that while his opinion was not based on an intensive survey, he was doubtful as to the economic feasibility of the railroad.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

b. Local Participation

Nothing new to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

Sadek Husseini left for the U. S. on a leader grant to attend demonstrations of water spreading and range management.

4 trainees departed for the U. S. during the month.

All efforts to get trainees into AUB have failed either as a result of complications with government ministries or due to AUB entrance requirements.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Nothing to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS & REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed - None.

b. Agreements under Current Negotiation - The Commercial School Agreement is in the process of discussion.

c. Implementation of Agreement - Nothing to report.

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS & REQUESTS (CONTINUED)

d. Requests

Agriculture - Dr. Edens discussed proposed projects for FY-54 with the Acting Director of the Department of Agriculture and the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance. Further discussions will have to be held before any definite commitments are made.

Similar discussions were held by other division chiefs.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT 4

FAO

Fertilizer plant - A conference was held by Mr. Jones and Mr. Dunaway with the Minister of Finance at which the gas-fertilizer plant proposal was discussed. Mr. Aalto, FAO engineer who has just completed a study of the proposition, participated. The Minister demonstrated great interest in the matter and said the plant would be built regardless of cost or profit.

Aalto said the plant would yearly produce 400,000 tons of ammonium sulphate at an estimated production cost of $40 per ton FOB Dammam. The C.I.F. price at Bombay ranges between $90 to $100 per ton. He stated that interest, depreciation, amortization and other cost elements are included in his estimate. The construction cost of the plant was placed at over $60,000,000. On being questioned concerning potential markets, Aalto said he had no exact information but that great need existed for fertilizer in India, Pakistan, China, etc. The Finance Minister suggested that a price of $60 per ton would yield a fair profit and allow the poorer countries to buy the product thereby increasing agricultural production and lifting the living standard.

The matter of methods of financing the plant's construction was not discussed. Mr. Jones expressed the USA's great interest in all projects calculated to increase agricultural production.

Mr. Aalto was instructed by the Minister of Finance to furnish TCA with a copy of his report but so far the report has not been received. Mr. Aalto prepared invitation for bids for constructing the proposed fertilizer plant but in view of the lack of arrangements for financing the plant and the

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT 4 (CONTINUED)

cost involved in preparing detailed plans and specifications, it seems doubtful if reputable concerns will respond to the invitation. Information has been received from a reliable source that Mr. Aalto is negotiating with the Ministry of Finance for employment as a consultant.

Dates - Work on processing and packaging dates is continuing under Mr. Carlson's direction. A small packing plant has been set up in Jidda in addition to one previously installed at Hofuf. Dates are to be packed for the local market, specifically for the pilgrim trade, and also for export.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

WHO Nothing new to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Nothing to report.

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

AIR POUCH

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

(Security Classification)

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File

# FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : Ambassador, Jidda

TCTFC #5
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

September 23, 1953
DATE

REF : TECTO CIRC A-23, dated August 18, 1953

| For Dept. Use Only | ACTION | INFO | DEPT. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | REC'D | | OTHER |

SUBJECT: FY 1954 and FY 1955 Technical Cooperation Operating Programs

## SAUDI ARABIA COUNTRY PROGRAM SUBMISSION

## PART I

## Resources and Needs of Country

### a. Natural Resources

Area Saudi Arabia occupies the greater part of the Arabian Peninsula having an area of over 600,000 square miles. Severe climatic conditions characterized by high temperatures, light rainfall and periods of drought place limits on the habitable and arable areas which probably make up less than 5% of the total land area. As for ages past, semi-nomadic and nomadic tribes wander over vast areas seeking grazing lands and water for their flocks of goats, sheep and camels.

Water Water resources are most restricted. In the eastern region water from underground sources supports several large oases as El Kharj, the Hasa Oasis, Qatif, Dammam, etc. The mountain regions of the southern province of Asir receive perhaps 9 inches of rainfall yearly, with the coastal plains (Tihama) benefiting from the subsequent floods. As the Nejd and the Hejaz are areas of great water deficiency, the search for new water sources is constant.

Agriculture Agricultural statistics are of the crudest. 1951 estimates show 161,000 acres planted to such cereals as wheat, barley, millet, sorghums and rice, and 10,000 acres to vegetables. There are an estimated 9,000,000 date palms producing 150-250,000 tons of dates yearly. Animal products - milk, meat, fat and butter - are produced from goats, sheep and camels. Cattle are negligible save in the Asir. Saudi Arabia is not self-sufficient in foodstuffs and must import great quantities of grains and other basic food necessities. The mass of her people are amongst the poorest nourished people in the world. Dickson, an authority on the Arabs, says they are always hungry. The only important cash crop is dates.

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Mineral Resources Saudi Arabia is one of the world's leading oil producers. The eastern fields of ARAMCO produced over 300,000,000 barrels in 1952. The same fields produce great quantities of natural gas. A project to use these gases to make fertilizer is currently under study.

To date, Saudi Arabia has not proven rich in other minerals. For some years the Saudi Arabian Mining Syndicate's mine at Mahab el Dahab yearly produced an estimated $1,000,000.00 worth of gold concentrates and small amounts of other minerals. However, the mine is slated to be shut down shortly. At Nuzaig exploratory operations costing upwards of $3,000,000.00 were carried out by SAG but did not result in paying quantities of ore being found.

Recent studies by TCA geologists indicate there are deposits of iron, asbestos and other minerals which may prove possible to exploit commercially.

b. Human Resources

Population size and density

Saudi Arabia's population is estimated at 3,500,000, with other estimates running between 2,500,000 to 6,000,000. Density estimates go from less than 5 up to 10 persons per square mile. All such figures are based on the crudest of estimates. Urban-rural estimates are as follows: city dwellers between 15-20%; settled cultivators up to 70%; bedouins-nomads from 15-25%.

Literacy The illiteracy rate is probably somewhere between 85-95%, with education, even in its most elementary stages, still unavailable for the mass of people.

Health The general health situation is bad. Malnutrition is widespread and is a characteristic condition of the vast majority of the people. The incidence of malaria, trachoma, venereal diseases, tuberculosis and intestinal diseases is high. In most cities a start has been made towards improving sanitary and health conditions but much remains to be done. Rural areas are still as they were in ages past with a life span estimated at 30 years. Amongst the Bedouin probably only one child in six reaches maturity.

Occupational distribution

The bulk of the population continues to live in small, isolated settlements in wadis and oases cultivating the land and grazing flocks. Nomads live off the flocks. Cities with populations of between 50,000-150,000 are limited to Jidda, Mecca, Riyadh and Hofuf. City dwellers work as laborers, artisans, small shop owners, merchants and traders, in offices, and a small percentage as professionals. The government employs a large number in its offices, and the oil company and the businesses and small industries growing up about it yearly attract more people. There is a great lack of trained mechanics, carpenters, electricians, etc.

Economic status The mass of people are poor and live on a bare subsistence level. Per capita income is estimated at between $40 to $80. There is a slow growth taking place of a middle-class, composed of businessmen, traders, professionals, craftsmen, etc. The condition of the worker has probably worsened relatively as there has been an inflationary trend in recent years caused by the increase in the government's income. While labor regulations exist in skeleton form, they are, in general, not enforced. General labor in the cities earn between 4-7 SR daily. In the interior such labor earns as little as 1 SR. A Saudi Riyal is worth an approximate 22 U.S. cents.

c. Capital Resources

National income No reliable estimates exist for total national income. The government's income is probably over $200,000,000. This represents by far the largest part of the total national income. No reliable estimates exist for income derived from subsistence farming, herding, fishing, etc. Evidence obtained from contact with persons so occupied indicates an extremely low income level.

The Budget Decree of April 10, 1952 gave a figure of $190,000,000 for both government revenues and expenditures. The same budget was used for 1953. A very large percentage of the revenues come from the oil industry with the rest from customs fees, taxes on gold and mineral concentrates, and Zakat taxes. Of these, customs duties are by far the largest. Principal expenditure items include: the King's household; tribal subsidies; government purchase of foodstuffs, automotive equipment, textiles, etc. for sale or free distribution; the Finance Ministry, Defense Ministry, Health Ministry and for construction of hospitals, quarantine buildings, government buildings, airports, roads, sewerage and water works, electric plants, etc.

Foreign trade Available trade statistics indicate that while in the past India and the Middle East supplied the bulk of imported goods, high prices and export restrictions in those regions, together with the recent availability of dollar exchange, have diverted much of this trade to the U. S. In 1951 the U. S. exported to Saudi Arabia a total of $51,270,919 worth of goods, including machinery and vehicles, textiles, metals manufactures, grains, sugar and food preparations. Oil revenues provide the foreign exchange for these purchases.

Capital Formation of capital funds from local sources to be used for development purposes is slowly taking place. Customary practices such as the buying of real estate or participating in trading ventures, plus the lack of modern corporation laws, act as brakes on investment in industrial enterprise. Foreign capital, save for large-scale oil development and a gold mine, has not been attracted primarily due to unfavorable and uncertain government policies.

Money and loans The establishment of the Monetary Agency has been a partial

step forward towards regularising financial transactions of the government. Despite its large oil revenues, the government frequently has to get advances on its quarterly oil payments in order to meet its obligations. An Export-Import Bank loan was partly used to cover payment of harbor and other development work. The Saudi Arabian money is freely convertible. Recently, paper certificates have been issued by the Monetary Agency for the use of pilgrims.

**Transportation - Communications**

Roads are largely tracks or rough trails while paved or improved roads are to be found only about the oil towns, between Jidda-Mecca and 100 kilometers of the Jidda-Medina road. The Saudi Arabian Airlines, a government company, joins Jidda-Medina-Mecca-Riyadh-Hofuf-Dhahran. International air and sea travel is handled by a number of different companies. Interior travel is handicapped by bad land facilities resulting in regional isolation.

## PART II

### General Situation in the Country

#### a. Development Plans and Programs

With the bulk of national income going directly to SAG, the prime source of development funds is the government. This is particularly true in the case of funds needed to carry out ~~such~~ non-revenue producing projects. Outlays for these works are very large due to the fact that even as late as 10 years ago the country was very deficient in all such services and much still remains to be done.

That there is great need for such projects is recognised by the Finance Minister and some other officials. The budgets of 1952 and 1953 were considerably in excess of previous budgets, especially in the categories which might be broadly considered as being developmental. Out of a total budget of 797,960,156 Saudi Riyals, approximately 132,390,000 SR, or $33,000,000, could be attributed to such projects. These included a quarantine station, hospitals, government buildings, roads, the railroad, water and sewerage works, dams, etc. This is approximately 17% of the budget. Nothing appears to have been allocated for agricultural or industrial development in the actual budget. However, it is believed SAG has spent nearly $1,000,000 for FAO projects, particularly the Gizan-Tihama project.

As the budget is not presented in much detail, it is difficult to evaluate. To judge the results is even more difficult. The antiquated governmental structure where a king who still rules to a large degree as a tribal chieftain and where lines of authority are not clearly defined, makes disciplined planning and execution difficult. Recently, the Crown

Prince has been given greatly increased authority and there are indications that the former overwhelming importance of the Finance Ministry is to be curtailed. What the results of this change will be, cannot be predicted. Not only is proper organization lacking, but there is a great deficiency in trained personnel of all grades and types.

From time to time development boards or agencies have been decreed, but to date their influence has not been noticeable. As government income has increased in the past ten years, commitments and appetites have likewise increased. Instead of building up a reserve fund for future use and instead of careful budgeting and planning, spending would appear to have taken place in a haphazard, confused fashion. It is a situation where virtually everything is to be done and there are great numbers eager to participate in the doing. There are numerous sons and other relatives of the King, and their demands and needs are great.

Under these circumstances, it is remarkable that ARAMCO has carried out the many projects it has in the last few years. But the need to expend a big percentage of revenues on all types of development projects remains. It is necessary to set investment priorities and to balance expenditures for permanent capital works with those of a recurring nature as in health, education and agriculture. The over-all need of building an educational system which will produce men and women prepared to work in all of the many phases of a modern economic society is perhaps of first importance.

TCA's future in large part should be to seek to channel these revenues into constructive and productive works. The stakes are enormous. Confronted by a people, who in the mass are poverty stricken, illiterate and sick, the government has now for the first time in its history the means to improve the people's lot. If such does not take place, it is unlikely that internal stability can long be maintained. The ferment disturbing many parts of the Middle East will probably sooner or later come to Saudi Arabia. Unless the Government has taken positive measures to improve conditions, the danger exists that the people will fall prey to some form of internal disorder or external pressure. Saudi Arabia is of great importance for its rich oil fields, the size of American investments with their annual large return to American stockholders and to the U. S. Government in the form of taxes, and in salaries to American employees. There is the strategic importance of Saudi Arabia, with its own and its neighbors' oil reserves lying virtually on the borders of Russia. It might also be noted that Iran and its confused condition lies just across the narrow Persian Gulf from the oil fields of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. A stable Saudi Arabia, characterized by a strong, friendly people, with a government capable of carrying out required programs, is needed in this strategic yet unsettled part of the world.

Because of this country's backward state, the TCA program should go slowly towards bringing about fundamental changes. This means doing work in agriculture, health, education, natural resources, and also

in public administration and transportation. There is always the danger of trying to do too much and it is difficult to pick priorities. Yet if the small program is to be effective to any degree, such choices must be made.

b. Resources - Internal and External

Development funds from private sources can be expected to become more important in the future. Private investment in industry and productive works is taking place slowly. It is confronted by many difficulties such as are noted above. However, some small industries producing tiles, building materials, soft drinks, a modern printing plant, etc., have been started. Trading societies frequently have relatively large resources and these could be sources of funds if opportunities in industry presented the likelihood of returns comparable to those gained in other fields. The growth of small business and industry is centered almost entirely in the Eastern oil towns and about Jidda. Interior Arabia still goes along largely as in the past. A date packing and exporting business is being promoted as a result of an FAO project. Other opportunities exist were risk capital available.

SAG has resorted to loans from the Import-Export Bank and private banks in the past to pay for certain projects. The government's policy of spending all or more than its income presents certain clear dangers. If oil production were to fall as a result of a change in world oil prices or demand, the resulting decrease in SAG revenues would be embarrassing, especially as no reserves exist. Endeavors to set up reserve funds have not been successful to date.

There are elements in SAG which recognize the dangers inherent in this situation. There is also recognition of the importance of attracting both local and foreign private capital. The recent request of SAG for a TCA expert in corporation tax law is indicative of the latter point. While to date the more nationalistic groups have been kept in check, there is ever present the danger that extremist elements might press for impossible terms if given free rein. This danger naturally does not make for an atmosphere conducive to private investment. One of the prime objectives of SAG policy might well be to promote private investment. Opportunities for the latter exist and will grow in the future providing the investor can have some assurance of stability and security.

These latter conditions are difficult to fulfill in a country undergoing the transition from a seminomadic-tribal society to a modern economic state in one or two decades. Guidance by TCA or any other U. S. Mission in these problems is thus a real necessity.

Special economic aid

Up to the present time, Saudi Arabia has not been the recipient of any special economic aid. However, in view of the experience gained in the past two years, it is proposed that Saudi Arabia be granted such aid

commensurate to her importance.

Justification of the request for $3,000,000 for Special Economic Aid rests on the political and strategic position of the country and the importance this position has in over-all U. S. policy. SAG has long considered herself discriminated against in comparison with the treatment accorded other Middle Eastern nations. This dissatisfaction has been constantly stressed and in 1952 the Government was on the point of cancelling the TCA program.

It is true Saudi Arabia is more favorably situated as regards the size of government and national revenues than certain other Middle Eastern countries. However, in many respects Saudi Arabia is the furthest behind in general over-all development. Her deficiencies are obvious and consequently her needs are great. The government is attempting to do many things at once. The effectiveness of SAG's activity is limited by the nature of its organization. Frequently, projects which would have a positive effect on the economy of the country are neglected or ignored. Aid funds expended in such directions can have a generative effect and should help in hastening the modernization and over-all well being of the government and the people.

c. Other Technical Assistance Programs

WHO is represented by a small mission of 8 persons working on projects having to do with malaria control, VD control and the quarantine station program. The WHO contributes the salaries of the technicians and a certain amount of laboratory equipment and supplies. SAG provides housing, transport, local technicians and labor, etc.

FAO has a more ambitious program. One project deals with packaging and marketing dates, both for internal and external sales. This project has reached the point where SAG has purchased two small packing plants on the advice of the FAO expert, and operations under his direction have begun. It is planned that a corporation will be set up to operate these and other proposed plants. At first SAG will provide the funds but it is hoped that private growers will invest money so that the corporation will become a mixed concern. The possibility of foreign sales appears to be good. As dates are one of the stable Saudi crops, such a development would help to diversify the Saudi economy and also to provide an additional source of income.

A study of Red Sea fish has been carried out and there is some talk of a Prince and other Saudis undertaking the establishment of a modern commercial fishing concern.

The largest FAO project has been a land and water development scheme in Gizan, Asir and Tihama. Studies have been made over a 2-year period of vegetation, soils, geology, etc., by a varying number of experts.

Several reports on these matters have been published by FAO. One report recommended dams, etc., at a cost of over $60,000,000. This was withdrawn and now proposals are for works costing an estimated $20,000,000 to irrigate a block of 10,000 hectares. Probably SAG has spent $1,000,000 to date in housing, transport, supplies, equipment, local personnel salaries, etc., on this project. Save for the mentioned reports, results have been slight. The region is isolated, has extremely hot and humid summer weather during which dust storms are a daily occurrence. Against the advice of people familiar with these conditions, an attempt was made this summer to begin land surveying and other field studies, and to establish a permanent camp. Unusually heavy rains, the bad weather, poor organization and lack of personnel made achievement of objectives virtually impossible. Experience would indicate that field work in the Tihama can only be profitably carried on from October through April. While the potential agricultural value of this region appears high, successful exploitation is dependent on thorough knowledge of conditions and careful long-range planning and organization. Financing of further work is uncertain. Funds were provided by SAG for 3 months' work. At this time continuance of the work is dependent on the supplying of additional money by SAG.

With the very many things required by the Arabian people, there is no need for duplication of effort on the part of TCA and other technical assistance programs. The Gizan project of FAO was aided at the beginning by geological studies carried out by TCA geologists.

## PART III

### A. The Program - FY 1954

1. General Plan In view of the backward state of development of Saudi Arabia, the TCA program seeks to provide direction and stimulus in a number of fields. In order to use the oil revenues productively, it is imperative that the Government expend its funds following a disciplined plan. Generally speaking, this does not occur. The future stability and progress of Saudi Arabia are dependent on the Government's ability to act constructively. Due to the peculiar nature of the Saudi Arabian economy wherein the Government receives and spends a large percentage of total national revenues, development is largely dependent on its actions. The degree to which TCA can contribute to the objectives of development and stability largely rests on its ability to persuade SAG to undertake certain activities and pursue certain policies. Projects selected ought, therefore, to tend towards building up and improving on administrative practices; to train locals to carry on after the American experts have left and to begin to improve on and institute services necessary to make Saudi Arabia a modern state.

Due to the elementary state of development, it is necessary to place emphasis upon building up or improving services which only indirectly contribute to the economic development of the country. SAG's request for technical assistance in drawing up a $10,000,000 school development program

is illustrative of this. Similarly in the Health Division, projects proposed have the end in view of guiding SAG into needed services and organizing them administratively so as to assure their proper functioning. In Agriculture, in addition to the effort to help increase food production, a prime objective is to strengthen the Department to the point where it can effectively help the cultivator and herdsman.

The Natural Resources program in its search for water and mineral resources is providing one of the needed foundations upon which to expand and diversify the present unbalanced economy. The Public Administration program has as its prime objective the strengthening of the Government's administrative and fiscal operations. The Transportation and Communications program seeks to aid SAG in building a modern and efficient communications and transportation system.

Objectives To assist the Saudi Arabian Government to:

a. Increase and improve food production through research and experiment in crops, animals and land use, by improving drainage and irrigation practices and by extension work.

b. Develop commercial and industrial schools and training programs and provide technical assistance in the expansion and growth of the over-all Saudi Arabian education program.

c. Improve health facilities and administration by strengthening the Health Ministry and expanding its activities through an immunization program, establishing a maternal-child health clinic and a public health laboratory and center.

d. Make maps and geologic studies for use in well drilling operations for populated centers and rural areas, study and map mineral deposits and determine commercial feasibility.

e. Modernize and improve administrative practices in public finance - customs and tariff, draft corporation laws and regulations governing organization and operation of foreign and domestic companies.

f. Improve transportation and communications facilities by aiding in the installation of devices to insure safety of air travel and train technicians in use of such equipment and by advising the Government on any special communication and transportation problems.

2. Chronology of Agreements

(1) Agreement for the Technical Cooperation Program in

Agriculture Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 11/10/52 ✓

(2) Agreement for the Technical Cooperation Program in Natural Resources Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 11/10/52 ✓

(3) Agreement for the Technical Cooperation Program in Transportation and Communication Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 11/10/52 ✓

(4) Agreement for the Technical Cooperation Program in Public Health and Disease Control Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 12/15/52 ✓

(5) Agreement for the Technical Cooperation Program in Education Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 1/25/53 ✓

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(6) Agreement for a Cooperative Aerial Survey Project Between the Government of the United States of America and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 11/10/52 ✓

(7) Agreement for a Cooperative Railway Survey Project Between the Government of the United States of America and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 11/10/52 ✓

(8) Project Agreement for Rural Community Development Projects Between the Government of the United States of America and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 12/15/52 ○

(9) Project Agreement #1 Under Technical Cooperation Program in Public Health and Disease Control Between the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of the United States of America

To Strengthen the Quarantine Services and to Enhance the Public Health Program of the Ministry of Health

6/29/53 ✓

3. Financing and Organization The Saudi Arabian Government has established a Liaison Office with a chief and staff to provide guidance and aid in planning and carrying out programs and projects. Despite difficulties created by the location of the Government in three cities, namely, Jidda, Mecca and Riyadh, contact between respective Division Chiefs and their counterparts in the Saudi Arabian Government grow closer with time. Much remains to be done with closer and more frequent contacts on the highest level necessary if TCA's limited resources are to produce maximum results. In this respect, the locating of technicians in Government agencies has only begun as in the Health Division. Centralization of the entire TCA staff in one building tends to isolate the technicians from the Saudi Arabian officials and does not allow for the growth of mutual understanding and confidence.

To date the Saudi Arabian Government financial contributions have probably been greater than those of TCA. So far only one joint project, the Commercial School, has been worked out. The elementary state of Saudi governmental bodies has not been favorable to the use of joint funds and cooperative services. However, with time the institution of such methods may become more feasible. Operations under such arrangements would give a clearer picture of the Saudi Arabian Government's contributions. For FY 1954 Saudi Arabian Government's contributions in funds, supplies, equipment, buildings, local labor, etc., will probably be between $1,500,000 to $2,000,000, and perhaps greater.

4. Relation to Other U. S. Programs To date there has been no contact between this program and the military assistance programs being carried out as no opportunities have arisen for the same.

5. Summary Table (Table VII attached)

6. Functional Programs

Agriculture Division

(1) Objectives The primary objective is to improve agricultural production standards by teaching the farmer more effective farm practices and thereby raise the rural standard of living.

(2) Problem in the Field of Activity Arable land is scarce in Saudi Arabia. Water for crop production is scarcer and the lack of it often causes local crop failure and even famine. Practically all farm production depends on irrigation with the very limited water. A high percentage of the farmers are illiterate. They pursue ancient farm practices. Consequently, with the restricted means for growing farm products and a lack of knowledge of how to utilize modern technology in combining the available factors of production, the basic problem in rural Saudi Arabia is to teach the farmers

to follow more desirable practices fundamental to fuller living. Better utilization of water and the bringing into use of newly discovered water resources is an important problem.

(3) Existing Governmental or Other Programs The host government practically has no organized program of agriculture. It does have a Department of Agriculture with a staff in Jidda. As a whole, the department is very feeble. Agricultural technicians have been stationed in three or four areas of the country but their work is ineffective because of the lack of support by the Department.

(4) Means of Resolution The Department of Agriculture, in order to be effective, needs strong leadership and a reorganized, strengthened staff. A country program of agricultural improvement could then be initiated. TCA can provide guidance and assistance in establishing a technical assistance program for the farmers which will help attain the objectives as set forth above.

(5) Organization The TCA Agriculture Division has had little opportunity, to date, to work on an organized basis with the host government Department of Agriculture. At present it is necessary to operate through the Minister of Finance and this condition will continue until a more responsible Director of Agriculture is provided.

(6) Activity Description

1/ Livestock Improvement Farm - $30,000 - 2 U. S. technicians part time. SAG proposes to establish a farm near Jidda. TCA to contribute breeding stock.

2/ Establishment of Range Demonstration Plots in Three Grazing Areas in Saudi Arabia - $12,300 - 3 U. S. technicians part time. Purpose is to investigate the possibilities of and ways and means of improving and conserving range forage plots for livestock.

3/ Demonstrate improved land drainage and assist in establishing a better drainage system for the Al Hasa Oasis (Hofuf) - $30,000 - 3 U. S. technicians part time. The object is to demonstrate improved drainage practices thereby increasing crop production, reclaiming high-salt-content soils and lowering the water table.

4/ Establish a crop experiment plot near Hofuf - $7,850 - 3 U. S. technicians part time. This seeks to determine more desirable varieties of food and forage crops and to study the control of insects and diseases.

5/ Distribution of Purebred Sires - $12,430 - 2 U. S. technicians - part time. This seeks to improve the quality of livestock in several communities.

(7) The agriculture program is in its initial development. Little concrete project work has been accomplished except for the special date study along the Persian Gulf.

Education Division

(1) Objectives To create the desire for, and start the development of, facilities and personnel for pre-employment and in-service vocational and technical education. Plan, develop and promote the organization of a minimum national, democratic system of public education including facilities, curricula, controls, personnel and stabilization of financial support.

(2) Problem in the Field of Activity There are no planned school structures in the country. There is a small percentage of the children who attend any kind of school. The curriculum is based first on religious law and secondly upon antiquated conception of enlightenment. Schools are mostly housed in rented locations. There are many SAG subsidized private schools. Approximately one-half of teaching personnel are contract Egyptians. There exists much prejudice against change and almost a complete lack of modern basic enlightenment upon which to build. Changes are only considered because of ever increasing pressure from the people for educational opportunities.

(3) Existing Governmental or Other Programs Private school operators are constantly offering individualized proposals for schools. The government is requesting financial contributions and technical assistance from ARAMCO in building isolated schools. There is no planned program for school development. Many opinions, many promises, no unification of thought results in little but loss of time and great waste of money.

(4) Means of Resolution The Government is ready for unified action. It will follow the leadership of any agency with financial support who can present a satisfactory way and means. TCA strategically and otherwise can successfully supply this leadership - with action.

(5) Organization Little definition of channeled official educational organization is available for operation. The Finance Ministry seems the most direct and forceful approach to any kind of development program under the circumstances.

(6) Activity Descriptions There are few things that measure real and true value to the people in Arabia. This fact may be due to the way of life in this arid land before the advent of oil just a few years ago. Basically, these things may be classified as food, money, religion, family and friends. Clothing, labor saving devices and normal living comforts of the Western world are of only secondary consideration, if any at all.

terrible heat and the extremes of climatic conditions generally, with little to really live for except family and life hereafter, time becomes one of the greatest expendable items.

Although these controlling factors are not so noticeable in centers of population, they are in reality still with the people for they have only known of Western ways since oil, or less than fifteen years.

Development, therefore, must spring from the possibility of enhancement of these basic values. With nothing more than religious schools in the past, it is hard for the people to know the full value of modern enlightenment. They have seen industrial work contribute to the wealth and as a result want technical education. But the less measurable kind of enlightenment, general education, has much less meaning right now although there is an ever increasing feeling in its favor as the people become familiar with western ways and living advantages.

The feeling is for schools, but other complications of finance in government and organization for government services, plus the fear of doing something that might undermine the religious faith, has held school development in check. These problems can only be overcome by demonstrations that can be seen and understood. The people want these demonstrations.

The educational program of TCA is planned to show the way in technical education in several major kinds of industrial training activities where the need for skilled employees is pressing. This training is to be of two major kinds, pre-employment and in-service or extension type training for adults.

Although the projects in technical education are rather small, they are comprehensive in applications of training techniques and procedures. However, the problem of literacy is great in any kind of learning situation in Arabia. The vast majority of the people cannot read or write any kind of language. While demonstrations in technical education are in progress, long-range planning must go forward in the development of an adequate general school program for the country, starting with the elementary schools and extending beyond the normal secondary school level. Such planning involves starting at the very beginning in every sense of the word -- curriculum, buildings, teachers, organization, administration, financial support and instructional materials.

A project of school planning has been requested by SAC and provision for it is included in the current budget. It is contemplated to result in an organized program of general school construction and development.

The funds allocated for the current year's educational program, $200,000, are not sufficient to meet the requirements necessary to make the maximum progress possible in Arabia at this time. Activities, of necessity, therefore must be limited both as to technical aid and operational facilities.

Although the funds budgeted for the five projects contemplated are modest in size, it is felt that they are sufficient to make a significant contribution. Several projects considered important could not be included in the current year's operation. They will be held in reserve.

By carefully distributing the educational funds, seven technicians and three locals have been provided for along with five demonstration-type projects. They are as follows:

1/ Commercial School - $58,300 - 1 technician, a commercial education specialist. This project, located in Jidda, the largest commerce center in Arabia, is contemplated to accomplish three major objectives: (1) to train office workers already employed in modern methods and skills; (2) to train youth preparing for entrance into commercial employment; (3) to establish a media for local control and operation of schools through the Commercial School Commission of Jidda.

2/ (One project covering scholarship training outside Arabia
3/ (and the other in-service aircraft training Saudi Arabian Airlines, are postponed in this year's budget.

4/ With a budget of $8,200, in addition to one technician, a vocational education specialist, provides for expansion of facilities and service in the Jidda Industrial School, the organization of instructional materials and in-service teacher training and development.

5/ Railroad Training, provides for the development of instructional material and in-service technical training primarily. In addition to one technician, a coordinator, this project has a budget of $14,140. The project is significant in view of the pressing need for skilled Arabian workers in the maintenance and operation of the new $200,000,000 modern American-style railroad recently put into operation between Dhahran and Riyadh.

6/ Calls for an expenditure of $9,000 and two technicians, and provides for an over-all country school planning program. This is an extremely important and difficult project because there is practically nothing existing that can be used as a basis upon which to build a school program. In considering this project, aside from the specific objectives of building, planning and organizing, an attempt through a joint fund commission will be made to set a pattern for representative national school administration.

7/ The Teacher Training Project is a combination of several

approaches to the training and development of teachers. With a budget of $11,700, it is felt that a good beginning can be made in the use of visual aids both for specific as well as general teaching situations. Through the translation of organized instructional material and the assistance of staff technicians in its use and application, it is hoped that new methods and teaching techniques can be introduced to in-service teachers. It is also hoped that this project will prove to be the means of establishing an organized teacher training pre-employment system.

In view of the great need for training of adults to meet current requirements of both industry and commerce, much of the cooperative educational program must consider this imperative need in its projection. Therefore, a combination general education and adult training specialist is included in the staffing of the Education Division, and budgetary provisions.

(7) Progress To Date The Commercial School, through the cooperation of TCA, is operating as a very small adult school now, with about 100 students. Interest in educational endeavor has been generated by trainee grantees and the Commercial School on both the part of SAG officials and business people. The situation is healthy, receptive and opportune for cooperation.

(8) Maps None.

Health Division

(1) Objectives To strengthen the Ministry of Health by advising on organization and budgetary procedures. To carry on some demonstrational projects to encourage the Ministry to develop a public health program. To promote friendship.

(2) Problems in Field of Activity Some of the problems are (1) poor organization in the Ministry; (2) lack of Saudis trained in health work; (3) lack of training facilities; (4) either lack of sufficient funds for the Ministry of Health or the unwise spending of the funds, or both; (5) a desire of some officials to keep the "status quo"; (6) lack of reasonably sufficient health facilities; (7) poor condition of existing health facilities; and (8) complete lack of any idea of sanitation.

(3) Existing Governmental or Other Programs The Ministry operates "hospitals" in several cities, as well as a quarantine service which concentrates its services on the pilgrims to Mecca.

The World Health Organization has recently sent an advisor on public health administration. It has a venereal disease control team,

a malaria control team operating, and a quarantine advisor here.

(4) Means of Resolution The health problem is so large here that only a start can be made to cope with it. It is hoped that the Ministry will not only be strengthened, but also the officials will develop a real interest in continuing public health work.

(5) Organization The headquarters of the Ministry of Health are in Mecca, and it is forbidden for non-Moslems to go there. However, recently an office has been established in Jidda so that there is practically daily contact with the official designated by the Ministry to work with TCA. Two of our technicians have been assigned directly to the Ministry. It is proposed to assign other technicians to the Ministry when they arrive. In this manner TCA will be able to integrate its programs into the operations of the Ministry.

(6) Activity Descriptions

210- Health Facility Development - The budget proposes to spend $50,000 on the quarantine station FY-54, and nothing in FY-55. By then the station should be completed and ready for operation.

The 1954 budget provides $2,000 to purchase books, magazines and literature for a public health library.

220- In 1954 and 1955, the budget requests $2,500 toward setting up and operating a maternal and child health clinic.

In 1954, there is $85,000 for strengthening the immunization program by providing equipment and the SAG providing the personnel and buildings.

In 1955, $25,000 is proposed for a public health laboratory—probably at the quarantine station.

In 1955, $10,000 is earmarked for a sanitation program.

(7) Programs To Date The quarantine station project agreement was finally signed. Under this agreement disinfecting equipment has been ordered and an engineer assigned to the Ministry of Health.

Another technician has been assigned to the Ministry of Health to work with the WHO Malaria Control team for the time being.

Natural Resources Division

(1) Objectives Fuller utilization of available resources, both water and mineral.

(2) Problem in the Field of Activity Development and conservation of water; exploration and development of metallic and non-metallic mineral deposits; mapping for accurate location of, and planning development of, natural resources, roads, railroads, airfields, agricultural lands, etc. In large measure this work is a prerequisite to plans and operations of some other divisions of TCA.

(3) Existing Governmental or Other Programs The Arabian American Oil Company activities are pretty well known; their development has been largely confined to the eastern half of Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi Arabian Government has a Department of Mines with headquarters in Jidda, which cooperates rather closely with the Natural Resources Division.

The drilling program to utilize ground water supplies is carried out by SAG through an American contractor under technical direction of the Natural Resources Division. The annual costs to SAG are currently at the rate of about $500,000 exclusive of amortization on equipment.

The FAO of UN continued its work in the Tihama-Asir, aimed toward improving methods of agriculture, with particular emphasis on maximum utilization of water.

(4) Means of Resolution At present there appears to be no possibility that SAG has any persons with necessary qualifications to be trained in this work. The only alternative seems to be for TCA to continue to do the work for them in order that other phases of technical assistance (particularly agriculture) may have something with which to work.

Coupled with this, however, should be strong representations to SAG to make a start in providing vocational training (at least) so that eventually there will be people of Saudi nationality who can carry some of the technical load.

(5) Organization As suggested above, Natural Resources Division furnishes technical advice and SAG provides drilling personnel and equipment through a contractor.

(6) Activity Descriptions

1/ Mapping - SAG has tentatively agreed to pay the costs of mapping by direct contract with a private firm. Horizontal and vertical control will be provided by Natural Resources Division, but as this work is done concurrently with geologic investigations and by the same personnel, a cost breakdown is not feasible.

2/ Water Resources - Analysis of a large backlog of water samples and continuation of prospecting for new and/or

additional water supplies, both surface and underground. U. S. cost for each year $160,500.

3/ Minerals - Analysis and classification of a large backlog of drill cuttings and rock samples. Continuation of general geologic survey and more intensive studies in areas of possible mineralization. U. S. cost for each year $139,500.

(7) Progress To Date

1/ Aerial photographic maps covering approximately 45,000 square miles of Saudi Arabia.

2/ Detailed geologic surveys for most of above area.

3/ Supplemental water supply for Riyadh of 2,500,000 gallons per day.

4/ New water supply for Gizan of 250,000 gallons per day.

5/ Preliminary survey and recommendation for surface storage reservoir at Abha.

6/ Recommendation for development of part of Gizan.

7/ Discovery of large iron deposit near Dhiba.

8/ Numerous small water supplies including: Nuseigh, Afif, Um Iej, Taif, Wejh, Wadi Khulaia.

9/ Discovery of asbestos prospect near Rabigh which warrants further investigation.

10/ Hydrologic study of Wadi Hanifa near Riyadh and recommendation on feasibility of salvaging surface flows.

11/ Field survey for determination of volume of flow in two major floods in Wadi Gizan.

12/ Recommendation for gauging station for studies of surface runoff in Wadis Hanifa, Gizan, and Abha.

13/ Approximately 3,000 square miles along proposed railroad route geologically mapped and numerous areas of possible mineralization located. These will require further study to determine whether or not they are of commercial value.

Public Administration Division

(1) Objectives To bring about improvement in certain phases of the host governmental administration mainly in the field of public finance.

(2) Problem in the Field of Activity Due to the elementary organization of Saudi Government, guidance and direction are required as responsibilities and duties increase.

(3) Existing Governmental and Other Programs The Saudi Government is slowly reorganizing its administrative structure. Example of this is the newly organized Ministry of Transportation. The Government has frequently brought in foreign missions or experts to help in developing a more modern governmental structure.

(4) Means of Resolution Achievement of objectives is dependent on SAG's ability to incorporate into its structure the advice and proposals of technical missions and in educating and developing a staff of trained government workers.

(5) Organization The Division works together with the Ministry of Finance and its several divisions.

(6) Activity Descriptions The FY-54 and FY-55 plan of operation includes the continuance of the customs-tariff work with one technician, replacement of budget and accounting advisor with a specialist in business organization to draft basic laws and regulations governing organization and operation of domestic corporations and operation of alien companies and a specialist in public finance to seek and develop opportunities for American investments; statistician to inaugurate a statistical organization for foreign trade and as a nucleus for a general statistical service; a specialist in public administration to advise on general governmental organization and procedures.

(7) Progress To Date In understanding of the work to be undertaken during FY-54 and FY-55, it will be helpful to outline accomplishments to date. The original SAG request was for technical advice and assistance in money and banking, customs and tariffs, budgets and accounts; the first phase, money and banking, was completed with the introduction of the gold sovereign and the establishment of the SA Monetary Agency in October 1952; a new tariff complete with interpretative index was introduced in December 1952, while plans and recommendations for improvement in customs administration were approved in principle at the same time. While some study was made of budgetary procedure, no appreciable results were obtained. Due to the assignment of the Customs Advisor as Acting Director since December 20, 1952 to the present, and Budget Advisor from January 6, 1952 to his resignation on August 25, one technician only has been at work assisting in the introduction of the new tariff and in implementing the recommendations for improvement in customs administration.

Transportation and Communications Division

(1) Objectives General improvement of transportation facil-

ities by railroad, highway and air. Installation of the Visual Omni Range equipment at Jidda Airport for the safer operation of aircraft.

(2) Problem in the Field of Activity It is well known that transportation facilities in this country with the exception of the railroad line now operating from Dammam to Riyadh are far from standard and up-to-date, and it is such facilities that need considerable improvement, thereby increasing the general economic welfare of the country.

(3) Existing Governmental or Other Programs The Saudi Arabian Government has been carrying out some road construction work and for some time has considered the building of a railroad from Riyadh to Jidda and Mecca.

(4) Means of Resolution Through long-range planning SAG can work out a construction program of roads, airports and other transportation and communication needs. TCA can help in such planning and in the setting of priorities, make economic studies, etc.

(5) Organization Up to now, all matters pertaining to general improvements in the country have been handled through the Finance Minister's office. However, recently a new Ministry of Communication and Transportation has been organized and it remains to be seen whether or not this ministry will have real authority in carrying out development work.

(6) Activity Descriptions The Visual Omni Range project we hope will be inaugurated sometime in November 1953 at an approximate cost of $75,000; one U. S. technician will be required for supervisory work, and it is proposed to establish four training awards in connection with the use of this equipment. In FY-55 TCA proposes to provide SAG with the needed experts. At this time it cannot be stated what projects might be carried out.

The railroad from Riyadh to Jidda may be started by the host government this year although the new Ministry of Transportation and Communication is opposed to its construction. This will require supervision by only one U. S. technician as the work of construction will be by contract let by the Saudi Arabian Government.

The highways from Taif and Mecca and Riyadh to Al Kharj will be done by outside contractors and will only require supervision by not more than two U. S. technicians.

It is anticipated that the host government will shortly take up the question of improvement of communications facilities which will require the supervision of one U. S. technician.

(7) Progress To Date The Visual Omni Range project is about ready to be submitted to Washington for approval. The other projects mentioned must await the proper time for action by SAG.

B. The Program - FY 1955

The FY-55 program contemplates continuing FY-54 projects and initiating a number of others. In a country as under-developed as Saudi Arabia, there is great need to assure a steady carry through. Otherwise, projects may be initiated to die a certain death before getting the needed continuing support of the people and government in order to become institutionalized.

Under the conditions existing in Saudi Arabia, it is not possible to expect quick results. The forms of social organization, economic life, government, etc. are the consequences of hundreds if not thousands of years of adjustment to a very poor and very harsh environment. To expect such conditions to be capable of rapid change is to misunderstand the nature of Saudi Arabian life. Because of this, the TCA program to be effective ought to be premised on carrying out a long-range program the results of which will only become apparent with time.

In Education, it is hoped that by 1955 several vocational and commercial training schools and centers will be operating. These will be a long step forward in providing Saudi Arabia with trained personnel. In addition, it is expected that a beginning will have been made towards starting a modern primary and secondary school system.

In Public Administration, efforts will be made to provide Saudi Arabia with expert advice in a number of fields. Virtually all the local government agencies need guidance. The problem of recruiting personnel capable of carrying out such work is most difficult. Mere technical ability is not enough. Saudi Government organization is so elementary that a technician accustomed to the procedures of a large modern state frequently finds it difficult to adjust and to cope with the situation.

In Agriculture, it is planned to continue projects started in FY-54 and to initiate a number of new ones. It is hoped that the Department of Agriculture will be in a better position to cooperate than at present. The program proposes work at a number of selected sites stressing crop and animal improvement, soil studies and water use and control projects.

The Natural Resources program will follow through on work already initiated. Water studies will be intensified and mineral explorations continued.

Health work will be concentrated on projects started in FY 53-54 in particular projects concerning the public health laboratory, a health center, maternal and child health clinic, and sanitation work.

In FY-55, Transportation is expected to furnish technical guidance to SAG for its road building program. A project to improve the Gizan and Yenbo harbors is contemplated.

The FY-55 program should prove to be a fruitful one. Many of the difficulties present in FY-52-53-54 should have been overcome. Methods of operation should have been worked out and needed personnel should be in the field. This is not to say that difficulties and complications will not continue to exist. The elementary nature of the government's structure and the difficult natural conditions characterizing Saudi Arabia will still remain.

For the Charge d'Affaires
ad interim

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

56 Enclosures
(List of enclosures attached)

56 Enclosures:

Summary tables and projects descriptions for FY 1954 for following divisions—

Agriculture
- Form I
- Form II-A (Project No. 1)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-A (Project No. 2)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-A (Project No. 3)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-A (Project No. 4)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-A (Project No. 5)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1

Education
- Form I
- Form II-B (Project No. 1)
  - Form II, Table A-2
  - Form II, Table B-2
- Form II-A (Project No. 4)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-B (Project No. 5)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-2
- Form II-B (Project No. 6)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-2
- Form II-A (Project No. 7)
  - Form II, Table A-1
  - Form II, Table B-1
  - Form III
  - Form IV

Health & Sanitation
- Form I
- Form II-A (Project No. 1)
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-A, (Project No. 2)
  - Form II, Table B-1
- Form II-A (Project No. 3)
  - Form II, Table B-1

**Health and Sanitation (continued)**

Form II-A (Project No. 4)
Form II-A (Project No. 7)
Form II, Table A-1
Form II, Table B-1

**Natural Resources**

Form I
Form II-A (Project No. -)
Form II, Table A-1
Form II, Table B-1

**Public Administration**

Form I

**Transportation & Communications**

Form I
Form II-A (Project No. 1)
Form II, Table B-1

Form III
Form IV
Table VII

AIR POUCH RESTRICTED

AmEmbassy, Jidda TOTEC #4

September 12, 1953

# TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - August 1953

## INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2-4 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 2 |
| | Education | 2 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 3 |
| | Public Administration and Government Services | 3-4 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 4 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 4 |
| | TRAINING | 4 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 5 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 5-6 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 6 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 6 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 7 |


JADumaway
EBetzig/dg

RESTRICTED

# TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - August 1953

## SECTION I. CRITIQUE

Field activity was limited as a result of the extremely hot and humid weather and the paralysis which annually grips the country during the pilgrimage season. Program development awaited advice as to the size of the FY-54 budget. There was no change in SAG's attitude of scepticism as to the fruitfulness of the program. However, SAG's request for TCA guidance in the development of a modern educational system is proof that the potential value of TCA aid is recognized in some quarters.

(RESTRICTED)

## SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

### a. Progress

#### Agriculture

Mr. Herbert E. Schwan, Range Management Specialist, arrived on August 4 and has entered on his duties by starting to plan a general reconnaissance survey of livestock graning areas in Saudi Arabia. He and Mr. Parker will make a trip through central and eastern Arabia in September.

Mr. Dixon continued his date variety study in the Hofuf, Qatif, Dammam and El Kharj gardens.

Discussions took place with Mohammed El Bakary, Saudi Department of Agriculture animal husbandman, concerning a proposed livestock demonstration farm near Jidda. Mr. Parker also assisted the Department in planning for trench silo demonstrations in these communities.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

#### Education

The Commercial School was not operated during the month as a result of the Haj or pilgrimage season. The reopening of the School depends on the signing of the Project Agreement for financing and operating the school. Signing is delayed as the Minister of Interior, under whose jurisdiction the education program comes, has been in Europe for nearly three months and his reported return in October is not certain.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION IV. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Health and Sanitation

Work on the Quarantine Station is proceeding slowly but satisfactorily with general specifications for the autoclaves, boilers and accessories sent to Washington. Detailed specifications will be drawn up there. Mr. Skrinde is helping SAG officials to improvise facilities at the contagious disease hospital at the Quarantine Station. The hospital was opened before some of the basic utilities were installed.

Dr. Butler has been working with the Ministry on preliminary plans for the establishment of a proposed Public Health Laboratory.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Natural Resources

Topographic and geologic studies of surface and ground water supplies were made in the vicinity of Taif. Geologic studies of ground water supplies in the Qunfida and Lith areas were carried out.

Heavy rains in the Asir-Tihama-Gizan region and the slow-down caused by the Hej handicapped drilling operations of the Baker Company. One well was completed near Taif but pumping tests will be delayed until another well, now under way, is finished.

All mosaic sheets of the Asir-Tihama were forwarded to Washington during the month for preparation of planimetric maps of the area.

Compilation of a map to accompany the geologic report for the proposed Jidda-Riyadh railway route was continued.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Public Administration and Government Services

Conferences were held with the Saudi Customs officials in order to clarify valuation problems confronting the Customs Administration. As a result, Mr. Kennedy was asked to draft regulations carrying out the principles agreed upon.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Public Administration and Government Services (Continued)

Summary critiques of the proposed Customs Ordinance and on the question of responsibility of Customs for loss or damage of merchandise in Customs custody were completed and submitted to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Transportation and Communication

Since August 2, Mr. Sinclair has taken over the duties of Acting Executive Officer. As Chief of the Transportation and Communication Division, he held two discussions concerning the installation of Omni-Visual Range facilities either at the Jidda or Dhahran airport.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

To date the Health Ministry has not completed arrangements for providing adequate power and water at the Quarantine Station.

(RESTRICTED)

c. Training

A serious effort was made to find candidates for scholarships to AUB who can meet AUB entrance requirements. Except for one possible candidate in Health, the prospects do not look promising.

The Chief of the Preventative Medicine Division and the Chief of the Quarantine Services are interested in getting leader grants to observe health work in the United States.

Mr. Sadek Husseini, SAG Liaison Officer with TCA, left for the United States under a leader grant to participate in a three month study of water spreading and range management.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Discussions were carried on with SAG officials by the various Divisions Chiefs concerning Projects to be undertaken during the current fiscal year.

Agriculture

Meetings were held with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance to discuss projects for this fiscal year. Five proposed projects have been briefly presented but as yet none of the details as to amount and kind of contributions have been been decided upon.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Education

The School Development Project still remains of major interest to SAG. Many decisions as to the kind of school and curricula, plan of action and financing must be made.

Due to the backward condition of local education, elementary and secondary schools to support higher institutions must be organized. Such must of necessity extend over a number of years. While the capital costs are to be borne by SAG, actual planning and organizational arrangements and scheduling are to be done by TCA.

Two TCA technicians, a school architect and a technician in school planning and development, will be needed. This program is undoubtedly one of the most hopeful proposals put forward by SAG and it should be given the fullest support possible by TCA. Most observers agree that the growth of an efficient education system is basic to all progress in Saudi Arabia. Total TCA contributions have not as yet been decided upon.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed - None

b. Agreements under Current Negotiation
Commercial School Agreement - Discussion has been held with the School Committee but signing awaits the return to Saudi Arabia of the Minister of Interior, HRH Prince Abdullah Faisal.

c. Implementation of Agreements
Refer to information re Quarantine Station Agreement.

(UNCLASSIFIED)
RESTRICTED

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS (CONTINUED)

d. Requests

SAG has requested the assignment of an expert in drafting basic laws and regulations governing the formation and operation of domestic and foreign corporations. After studying local conditions, he would draft modern laws and regulations with emphasis on the formation of a good climate for foreign investments. Washington has been requested to recruit for this position. It has also been proposed that a specialist be recruited to aid SAG in administering and implementing the law and regulations once they are issued by Royal Decree.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

None

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR

WHO

Nothing new to report.

FAO

During the last several months, FAO technicians Arar and Mez have been engaged in attempting to establish a base camp for the Qizan land-water development project. Leaving Jidda in June, they were subjected to the severe heat, humidity and sandstorms characteristic of the Asir-Tihama plains. In addition, work was handicapped by the heavy rains which flooded the wadis later in the summer. Automotive equipment broke down; air conditioning outfits were useless in the tents. It was found to be virtually impossible to carry out the proposed water and land surveys. Some observations were made on flood levels and rainfall. The outlay for supplies, equipment and wages were heavy and costly in terms of achievement. This experience clearly demonstrates the difficulty of attempting work in the Tihama from June through September. Much critical comment has resulted concerning the method of operation.

The date project is progressing and date packing machinery recently acquired is to be set up in Jidda. A small packing plant is ready for operation in Hofuf. Mr. Carlson has been wholly responsible for this project which promises to lead to a new source of employment and revenue.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Nothing to report

b. Nothing to report

AIR POUCH RESTRICTED

AmEmbassy, Jidda TOTEC #3

August 8, 1953

## TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - JULY 1953

### INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 5 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 2 |
| | Education | 2 |
| | Health and Sanitation | 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 3 |
| | Public Administration and Goverment Services | 4 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 4 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 4 |
| | TRAINING | 5 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 5 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 6 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 7 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 7 |


JADunaway
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RESTRICTED

Monthly Summary July 1953 - 7. S. Department

# TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - JULY 1953

## SECTION I. CRITIQUE

This month was characterized by comparative inactivity due in part to the severity of the climate which reduced field operations to a minimum and to the uncertainty of the size of the 1954 budget which held up the signing of new project agreements. This latter question is still unsettled with the type of program to be followed dependent on the amount of money available for project expenditures. New personnel continued to arrive in the field. It becomes increasingly obvious that in Saudi Arabia technicians without proper backstopping funds are so handicapped as to make their utility questionable.

(RESTRICTED)

## SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

### a. Progress

#### Agriculture

A study of dates in El Hasa Province to determine the best varieties for further propagation has been begun by Roy W. Nixon, recently arrived in Saudi Arabia. During his six month assignment, he will concentrate on the date growing regions about Qatif, Hofuf, El Hasa and El Kharj.

Mr. Tollie O. Parker, another recent arrival, has been making a survey of the livestock and connected problems in the countryside about Jidda. His counterpart, Mr. Mohammed Ali El Bakry of the Saudi Arabian Department of Agriculture, has arrived from Egypt where he has been studying livestock problems.

Mr. Moon was hospitalized as a result of complications arising from an accident which occurred while enroute from Jidda to El Kharj. His condition has improved but he is under orders to proceed to Wiesbaden, Germany for further treatment.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

#### Education

Plans for the continuance of the Commercial School are going forward in accordance with instructions from TCA/W. However, signing of the Project Agreement is dependent on the availability of funds. The Assistant Director's contract terminates in September with its renewal also dependent on availability of funds. The School will be closed from August 14 to September 15 for the Haj, the annual period of pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Health and Sanitation

Mr. Skrinde has been assigned to the Health Ministry where he will represent TCA in carrying out the work set forth in the Quarantine Project Agreement. Plans for the autoclaves and boilers for the disinfection building are being prepared.

Dr. Butler has been working on developing a program in parasitological and entomological investigations, especially in the Hejaz, specializing in malaria and bilharzi. He has been collecting background information from the WHO malaria control team. It is proposed to assign him to the Health Ministry where it is hoped he may help establish a section of the public health laboratory for the identification of these diseases.

Mr. Skrinde, Mr. Brinck and Dr. Butler made brief field investigations of Wadis Fatima and Khulais for the purpose of collecting information to be used in establishing a rural health program in these areas.

Country clearance was given Miss Potter, Senior Nurse Officer, recruited for the Maternal-Child Health project. The Project Agreement's signing is waiting on information concerning TCA/SA's budget.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Natural Resources

The outlining of the drainage area of Wadi Itwad was completed. A number of mosaic sheets of the Asir-Tihama area were completed and checked preliminary to forwarding to Washington for preparation of planimetric maps of the area.

Mr. Bogue continued general geological studies of Wadi Khulais and Wadi Rabigh with specific reference to ground water supplies.

Mr. Goudarzi made geologic studies in the region about Yenbo el Nakkl to be used on the railroad map and for the water supply for Yenbo. A map of the area is being prepared to accompany the water report.

A second well was completed and gravel-packed by the SAG drilling contractor for the Gizan water supply. Pumping tests were held up due to heavy rains which bogged down all vehicles.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Public Administration and Government Services

Following discussions with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr. Kennedy was requested to submit to him a summary critique of the Customs Ordinance and Regulations drafted by local officials. He stated the Royal Decree would not be forthcoming until Mr. Kennedy had made his comments.

The Assistant Deputy agreed it was an injustice to make the shipping agents responsible for loss or damage of merchandise while in the custody of Customs.

The proposed procedure for clearing goods has been discussed in detail with Customs officials and worked out on paper. The changes are mainly administrative and center in the new Bill of Entry. The latter is now being printed in Mecca.

Discussions took place concerning a solution to valuation problems arising in the administration of ad valorem duty schedule.

Prior to leaving to attend an Economic Conference of the Arab League, the Director General of Customs discussed the purpose of the conference and asked Mr. Kennedy's advice on a number of points. The establishment of preferential treatment for certain goods from Arab League countries is an important agenda subject.

(RESTRICTED)

Transportation and Communication

Considerable time was spent in expediting the departure of Moussa Affifi, the translator assigned to the International Engineering Company in San Francisco to translate the report on the railroad survey of the line between Riyadh and Jidda.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

Discussions were held with the Health Ministry regarding completion of facilities for power and water at the Quarantine Station.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

c. Training

Little information is received by the field concerning the progress of trainees in the United States. It is extremely important that regular official reports on the progress of trainees be furnished to the field on a monthly basis.

The contract of TCA with the American University of Beirut promises no relief to the trainee grant program in Saudi Arabia. Saudi candidates are severely handicapped by AUB entrance requirements as to knowledge of English and general pre-college courses. With the exception of health and sanitation training, the contract makes no special arrangements for technical training other than that offered by the regular college curriculum. In view of these limitations, there is great need for a Middle East center which will provide the kind of training needed by TCA grantees.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

An unusual amount of interest was shown during the past month in training grants with over thirty-three conferences held with prospective trainees. Two of the six grantees scheduled to go to the U. S. are awaiting further advice to proceed to the U. S.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Development and planning have been seriously handicapped by the budget presented to the field by TCA/W, which is one-third smaller than the budget for the current fiscal year.

The enlarged water research development project has not as yet been approved by TCA/W. The proposal to carry out an extensive education expansion program is also of doubtful status due to the uncertainty as to the availability and amount of funds.

Discussions were held with the Health Ministry concerning the proposed establishment of a National Advisory Health Council. The suggestions met with little enthusiasm.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed

None

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

None - Waiting on Budget Information.

c. Implementation of Agreements

None

d. Requests

Education

The Minister of Finance has requested recommendations from the Education Division with the view to the physical development of an educational system involving an expenditure of $10,000,000 or more. The matter is in the discussion stage with TCA participation and contribution still uncertain.

The Manager of the Saudi Arabian Government Railroad has requested assistance in planning and operating both an in-service and a pre-vocational school especially for railroad operation. This request is similar to a request made some months ago by the Saudi Arabian Airlines, a Government Organization. The latter has not been considered due to lack of funds.

(RESTRICTED)

Health

A verbal request of the Health Ministry again asked for assistance in obtaining medical books, periodicals and literature. The extent of assistance in this instance will be dependent on the availability of funds.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing to Report.

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR

F.A.O.

FAO is in the initial stages of building a permanent camp at the site of the Gizan Project. The heat of the summer and several flash floods have greatly handicapped carrying out the work.

(RESTRICTED)

W.H.O.

Dr. Nazif has been appointed Chief of WHO programs in Saudi Arabia and advisor to the Minister of Health on public health affairs.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

GENERAL

Dr. Jesus Azurin of the Manila Quarantine Service visited Jidda to learn Saudi Arabian quarantine practices during the Haj.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. There is a definite shortage of secretarial help, with no solution in sight. This becomes serious as the Mission grows in size.

b. Nothing to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

For the Charge' d' Affaires
ad interim

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

Monthly Reports TCA/W Despatch

AIR POUCH RESTRICTED

AmEmbassy, Jidda TOTEC #1

July 7, 1953

TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - JUNE - 1953

INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 5 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 2 |
| | Education | 2 - 3 |
| | Public Health and Sanitation | 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 3 |
| | Public Administration & Government Services | 4 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 4 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 4 |
| | TRAINING | 5 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 5 - 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 6 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 7 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 7 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 7 |


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## TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - JUNE 1953

### SECTION I. CRITIQUE

Due to the fact that the Mission's funds were all expended, with an over-commitment existing, it was necessary for TCA/W to increase the allotment and also to grant an additional sum to provide for the initial $50,000 for the Quarantine Station Project. The Saudi Government's attitude was, in general, one of discontent. There appeared to be a growing feeling on the part of the Saudis that TCA in Saudi Arabia was not living up to their expectations. This is unfortunate, for the amount of potential contribution that TCA could make to Saudi Arabia's development is enormous.

(RESTRICTED)

### SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

Again it must be stated that with no projects in operation, little progress has been made. Lack of personnel remains the prime delaying factor. However, recruitment of personnel is improving. Mr. Roy Nixon, who will study date varieties and the means to improve date cultivation practices, will arrive about July 6. Mr. Tollie O. Parker, livestock specialist, is expected to arrive on July 2. Mr. Herbert Schwan, desert range conservationist, is being oriented in Washington and country clearance has been requested from SAG for extension specialist, Mr. Fred A. Barham.

Delay in the arrival of vehicles to be used by field parties could be a source of embarrasment when the technicians arrive. Five (5) vehicles were requisitioned in February, 1953, but the vehicles have not yet been shipped.

(RESTRICTED)

Education

The School of Commerce reopened in the middle of June following the ending of the month of Ramadan. The number of students registering for courses was virtually the same as at the termination of the last period. However, few of the previously-attending students returned to the school. This is attributed to the crowded classroom conditions, lack of air-conditioning units or effective electric fans and the constant turn-over of the part-time teachers employed. It is expected

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Education (Continued)

that these matters will be rectified in the coming term so as to reduce this large turn-over of students.

Dr. Dolley spent a part of the month attending an education conference in Rome.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Health

The Quarantine Station Agreement was signed on June 30, 1953. The delay in signing this agreement resulted in deterioration of relations between the Health Ministry and TCA but it is hoped that with the signing of the Agreement, steps can be taken to begin planning other projects.

(RESTRICTED)

Natural Resources

With the advent of the extreme heat of summer, field work progressed at a slower pace than previously. Technical direction was provided to enable further exploratory well drilling for agricultural water in Wadi Khulais. Two water wells were brought in at Um Lejj and the drilling contractors are making a survey for a pipeline to bring the water to this northern Saudi Arabian town. A report containing recommendations for the Riyadh water supply by the water engineer of the contractor is to be sent to the Finance Minister following translation.

The preparation of base maps made from aerial photographs of the Yenbo region continued. These will be included in a report to the Finance Minister concerning the water supply for the town of Yenbo.

Office work on the study of the Wadi Itwad drainage basin neared completion.

Dr. Brown and Mr. Jackson left Saudi Arabia during the month for their home leave.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Public Administration

After considerable delay, the Saudi Government issued the publication containing the Tariff Ordinance and the Classification Guide, printed in Arabic, to the Customs officials and, a few days later, to the general public. The stencilling of the English translation will likely be finished and ready for mimeographing in a few weeks. This will see the completion of the long process of basic tariff revision.

Mr. Kennedy spent a considerable part of the month in Iraq, consulting with the Minister of Finance and top Customs officials of that Government. Mr. Kennedy's recommendations for improvement of the Customs were reviewed in detail and accepted with one minor exception. He also held meetings with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance of Saudi Arabia concerning the implementation of the Bill of Entry, improved valuation procedures and the general program of work for the next few months. The Assistant Deputy Minister showed his apparent interest in customs problems and improvements and expressed a desire to continue the discussions.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Transportation and Communication

The staking out of the fifty mile strip of line from Riyadh was completed on May 31 by the International Engineering Company. Following this, Mr. Charles Buck, Project Manager for the Engineering Company, closed the office in Jidda and left for San Francisco on June 13. The final report on the survey is expected to be completed in two months.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

Arrangments were made with the Department of Agriculture to provide counterparts for Mr. Nixon and Mr. Parker on their arrival in Saudi Arabia. Due to the great lack of trained technicians in Saudi Arabia, it is usually very difficult to get counterparts.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

c. Training

During the month a number of candidates were interviewed and the processing of a number of others proceeded.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

With the FY-54 proposed program authorization entirely insufficient in terms of local realities, it is hoped that the Saudi Arabian program will be granted increased funds with which to function. If such does not occur, a drastic cut-back of the number of personnel must be undertaken. Also the abandonment of a number of proposed projects. Intimate knowledge of local conditions would indicate that in Saudi Arabia, technicians alone, unless properly equipped and supplied, are virtually unable to carry out projects.

(RESTRICTED)

Agriculture

To date, planning of agricultural work has been primarily in the Wadi Khulais and Wadi Itwad. However, as technicians arrive in the field, the Agriculture Division, in concurrence with the Saudi Arabian Department of Agriculture, intends to begin work in other areas such as Wadi Fatima, Abha, Riyadh, Hofuf and Dammom-Qatif. The extent of the work undertaken is dependent on the sums of money available to carry on projects. The proposed FY-54 program authorization is wholly inadequate providing as it does, funds for personnel and training awards and none for supplies, equipment and travel.

(RESTRICTED)

Education

During the coming fiscal year, it is expected that expansion and improvement of facilities for the School of Commerce and the Industrial School will take place. The Industrial School has a piece of land near the sea where, for some time, a school has been planned. Lack of funds has so far delayed its construction. It is hoped that through TCA stimulation and help, a simple first unit will be built and the organization of this school on modern lines begun. The School of Commerce Committee has been promised land by HRH Prince Abdulla Faisal, for a school center. To date, the matter has not been settled. If and when the Project Agreement for the expansion of this school is signed, it is expected that impetus will be given to Saudi aspirations. Again it must be noted that the proposed FY-54 budget does not provide for other than technicians and training awards.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

Natural Resources

Planning for the expanded water program - the project with first priority in the Government's scheme, has been held up due to uncertainty on TCA's part as to the amount of technical assistance it will be able to supply. There are certain indications that SAG has lost interest in TCA's undertaking of theproject due to TCA's inability to indicate the extent of its commitment.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed

The Quarantine Station Agreement, wherein the U. S. Government will provide $50,000 from FY-53 funds and additional money as it becomes available in FY-54, was signed on June 30.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

As no funds were available, no negotiations were carried out during June.

(RESTRICTED)

c. Implementation of Agreements

Nothing to Report.

d. Requests

The Saudi Government has expressed interest in getting TCA's assistance in developing the industrial use of flare gas in the Hasa oil fields.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing to Report.

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR

F.A.O.

Additional supplies and equipment and personnel were sent to Qizan to further work on the field survey begun last month. There are indications that, following the completion of this field work, the project will be terminated unless SAG provides funds to start proposed construction work.

(RESTRICTED)

W.H.O.

Nothing to Report.

GENERAL

The Ministry of Health was requested to grant permission to Dr. Jesus Azurin of the Manila Quarantine Service to visit Saudi Arabia to observe and study local practices. Approval has not yet been granted.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a.) Mr. J. Carney Howell, Chief Controller of TCA, was in Jidda for several days to check into the financial status of the mission.

Work continues on the analyses of FY-52 and FY-53 expenditures and the installation of the new accounting system.

(RESTRICTED)

b.) Nothing new to Report.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

Monthly Reports

AIR POUCH RESTRICTED

AmEmbassy, Jidda TOTEC #40

June 8, 1953

# TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - MAY - 1953

## INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 5 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 2 |
| | Education | 2 - 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 3 - 4 |
| | Public Administration & Government Services | 4 |
| | Public Health and Sanitation | 4 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 5 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 5 |
| | TRAINING | 5 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 6 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 7 - 8 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 8 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 8 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 9 |


JADunaway
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RESTRICTED

TOTEC #40
AmEmbassy, Jidda

## TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - May 1953

### SECTION I. CRITIQUE

Delays in the signing of Project Agreements; the slow arrival of technicians in the field; uncertainty as to the size of the FY-54 budget and exhaustion of FY-53 funds have nearly brought the program to a halt.

Saudi interest in the program is at its lowest point since the program's initiation. Unless recognition is given to the importance of Saudi Arabia in the Middle East, politically, strategically, economically, and a program budget is provided in keeping with this importance, it is within the realm of possibility that the Saudi Government may request the program be terminated.

(RESTRICTED)

### SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

As no projects are in operation, little progress has been made. Test seedings, carried out by Mr. Moon, at one of the Agriculture Department's farms are growing farily well and the test may provide interesting results if the plants are not eaten by sheep, goats and cattle. During the month, several agricultural regions including those at Anaiza and Buraida were visited by Dr. Edens. Mr. Moon visited a farm near Riyadh planned to be used by the Finance Minister for experimental and demonstrational purposes. Consultations were held with the Finance Minister and the farm manager concerning layout and irrigation.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Education

As a result of the coming of the month of Ramadan, the School of Commerce closed on May 14th and will re-open on June 16. During this period business is conducted mainly at night making it impossible for employees to attend the school. On opening, the school term will continue until the Haj starts in the middle of August. Whether or not the school opens in September after the Haj is dependent to a very large degree on the signing of the FY-54 Project Agreement under which TCA will carry part of the school's expenses for the coming year.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Education (Continued)

Dr. Dolley visited Dhahran between May 12 and 16 and studied the education program and training facilities of ARAMCO. He was particularly interested in methods used and problems encountered in training native personnel. It was noted that training facilities were inadequate in many instances and were housed in improvised shelters. There was the usual weakness in available instructional material. In comparison, the School of Commerce appeared to be the best equipped of its kind in Saudi Arabia.

The Regional Civil Air Attache visited Jidda in order to determine the feasibility of starting a project on aviation training in conjunction with the Saudi Arabian Airlines. While having considerable merit, the project probably will not be recommended for approval due to lack of funds.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Natural Resources

Preliminary field work in the Tihama esh Sham region, astronomical observations for mosaic control and calculation of astral positions were completed by Mr. Jackson.

Field exploration in Northwestern Saudi Arabia resulted in the finding of additional outcrops of an iron-bearing formation previously studied. Mr. Bogue was accompanied by a geologist from the Bethlehem Steel Company.

Mr. Goudarzi worked on the preparation of portions of a geologic map along the proposed route of the Riyadh-Jidda Railroad. He also helped in locating a test well for a supplemental water supply for Jidda and accompanied Dr. Brown on a reconnaissance trip to Yenbo and Um Lejj.

Field studies of flood run-offs in Wadis Gizan and Baish in Tihama al Yemen were completed by Mr. Daugherty and the drainage areas of Wadis Baish and Itwad were outlined through the use of stereoscopic projection and controlled mosaics.

The placing of names in English and Arabic on a map of the Asir-Tihama was nearly completed.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Natural Resources (Continued)

A pumping test of water from a well planned for the city water supply of Yenbo was made by Michael Baker Jr., Company technicians. The water proved to be too brackish for city use and a source twenty-five kilometers distant is being recommended. The fresh water samples previously obtained are probably accounted for by the unusually heavy rains this year in the Yenbo region. The feasibility of using the water for irrigation will be studied.

The Um Lejj region, 500 kilometers north of Jidda, was mapped geographically and geologically and three drilling sites for the town selected. There is geological evidence that water for agricultural purposes exists in this region.

(RESTRICTED)

Public Administration and Government Services

Mr. Kennedy spent most of the month in Baghdad and Basra on a special assignment to TCA/Iraq to study the tariff and customs administration. A report to the Minister of Finance of Iraq is being prepared and will be presented in June.

Locally, the translation of customs regulations drawn up by Saudi Customs Officials proceeds slowly. Careful review of the sections translated indicated the need to make a completely new start, which will be recommended to the Ministry of Finance.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Health and Sanitation

Due to inability to sign the Project Agreement for the Quarantine Station, little progress was made this month. Mr. Ferguson attended a conference at Geneva with SAG representatives, W.H.O. AND U.S.P.H.S. to discuss the matter and reached agreement on the type and size of equipment to be installed in the building for disinfecting at the Quarantine Station.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Transportation and Communication

The field work of the Railroad Survey from Jidda to Riyadh was finished and all that remains to be done is the staking out of a fifty mile strip out of Riyadh. The International Engineering Co., contractor for the survey, expects to leave Jidda during June and will complete the report on the project at its San Francisco office.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Rural Community Development Project

To date, potable water has not been located.

Most of the road machinery purchased by TCA as part of its contribution has been bought. SAG has selected a road contractor to carry on the work.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

Nothing significant to report as no new projects were begun.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

Three grantee applications were filed with TCA/W; three grantees left Jidda enroute to Washington; three others have been approved for training starting December 1; one Leadership Grant, to start June 22, has been approved. This latter grant is for the Chief of Police of Jidda. A request for a second Leadership Grant has been sent to TCA/W. The candidate is the head of the Industrial School of Jidda and it is considered extremely important to the further development of industrial education in Saudi Arabia that he receive the grant.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

With the figure of $1,000,000 (m) given as the FY-54 budget, program development and planning become very difficult. The budget and justification submitted to Washington called for a program in six fields of activity covered by signed Program Agreements and was to be staffed by 44 U. S. personnel. The $2,000,000 (m) budget submitted to Washington by the field took into consideration the minimum funds required for demonstrational purposes and hence for equipment, supplies, field travel, maintenance of equipment, etc. The entire staff, including the Division Chiefs and technicians, unanimously concur that with a budget of $1,000,000 (m) even a semblance of the program as planned will be impossible. Unless drastic reductions are made in the number of proposed projects and the overall program greatly cut back in size, the Mission will be paralyzed and the technicians rendered almost wholly ineffective.

It is difficult to see how the Program Agreements, signed by SAG and U.S. Government officials and committing TCA and SAG to carry out projects in Agriculture, Education, Health, Natural Resources, Transportation and Communication, and Public Administration, could be implemented on a budget of $1,000,000 (m). These Program Agreements broadly commit the U.S. to provide technical assistance to Saudi Arabia through the provision of technicians and equipment and supplies for demonstrational purposes. A budget of $1,000,000 (m) would preclude the possibility of putting into effect the terms of these Agreements.

(RESTRICTED)

Agriculture

Work will begin in July on the identification of the best date varieties in Hasa Province. A date specialist is coming on a six month assignment and will work through the growing and ripening season. It is expected that this study will contribute to improving the date crop, far and away the largest crop grown in Saudi Arabia.

A brief inspection trip in the El Kharj district, where many wells are being drilled to supply water for agriculture by Princes and Amirs, emphasizes the need for soil and irrigation studies. Advice in these fields and in land leveling is badly needed and it is hoped that in the future a joint project will supply these services.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Health and Sanitation

The Health Ministry refuses to discuss any projects until TCA comes to a decision on the Quarantine Station.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed

None

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiations

| | |
|---|---|
| Agriculture | None |
| Public Administration and Government Services | None |
| Transportation and Communication | None |

Education

TCA/W has given tentative approval to the Project Agreement covering the School of Commerce, noting the need for certain revisions. Signing of the Agreement is dependent on arriving at an accord concerning these changes and on the availability of funds in FY-54. No funds are available for it in FY-53 unless TCA/W provides additional sums.

The proposed project concerning scholarships with AUB for training purposes is held up while awaiting comment from AUB and TCA/W.

(RESTRICTED)

Natural Resources

The proposed project for a greatly increased water exploration and exploitation program is held up while discussions take place between TCA/W and the field over the degree of Point 4 participation. This project would entail a Natural Resources budget of over $500,000 and is viewed by the field as being of perhaps the most vital importance to Saudi Arabia. The King and the Crown Prince enthusiastically press this program and SAG expenditures over a few years period would be over $8,000,000 (M). TCA's future is directly connected to its capacity to carry out the technical aspects of the work. In many quarters it is considered quite probable that refusal on the part of TCA to do this work will mean the certain cancellation of the entire program.

(RESTRICTED)

Health and Sanitation

SAG refuses to discuss any of the other projects until a decision is reached by TCA concerning the Quarantine Station Project.

(RESTRICTED)

c. Implementation of Agreements

Nothing to report

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS (CONTINUED)

d. Requests

SAG has requested that Point 4 cooperate in financing a special aerial survey for the FAO Gizan Project and also to assist in t engineering plans and constructing harbor works at Gizan for the Gizan Port.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing to report.

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT 4

FAO

There is little evidence of progress in the FAO Project at Wadi Gizan although a party set out for Gizan to conduct a field survey of the project area.

FAO has requested some special aerial photography for topographical purposes but the delay on the part of SAG in making arrangements with the Aerial Survey Company to undertake the work made the attempt useless by reason of bad visibility. The delay on the part of SAG is believed to be due to the suggestion of FAO that TCA should bear part of the cost. (See memo. from Edens and Dunaway on conference with Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, April 5, 1953, submitted to TCA/W with Weekly Letter, April 9, 1953).

(RESTRICTED)

WHO

Dr. Nobler of the WHO Regional Office visited TCA offices and inspected the Quarantine Station.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

OTHER

Dr. Daggey of ARAMCO visited the TCA offices and invited Mr. Ferguson to come to Dhahran to inspect health work carried on by ARAMCO. He was in Jidda to discuss the ARAMCO malaria control program with the Minister of Health.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Mr. Bode continued to work on the installation of the new accounting system.

The work of analyzing FY-52 and FY-53 expenditures continues with much left to be done due to the inadequate system of control of expenditures used in the past and the uncertain condition of FY-53 obligations and expenditures.

b. Nothing new to report.

(RESTRICTED)

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

Monthly Reports
Return to file

CONFIDENTIAL

AmEmbassy, Jidda

TOTEC #36 May 6, 1953

AIR POUCH

TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - APRIL-1953

INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I. | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II. | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2 - 5 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 2 |
| | Education | 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 3 |
| | Public Administration & Government Services | 3 - 4 |
| | Public Health and Sanitation | 4 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 4 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 4 |
| | TRAINING | 4 - 5 |
| III. | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 5 |
| IV. | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 5 - 6 |
| V. | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 6 |
| VI. | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 7 |
| VII. | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 7 |


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2 7

TOTEC #36
Amembassy, Jidda
May 6, 1953

# TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - APRIL 1953

## SECTION I. CRITIQUE

There was little change during the month as regards the attitude of SAG towards the local program. Feeling prevails in the Government that the program has not measured up to its promises and that it does not meet Saudi necessities. This feeling is reinforced each time the Saudis learn details of enlarged programs or projects in other countries. This basic criticism by SAG can only be rectified if recognition is given to the importance of Saudi Arabia in the Middle East and to its need for TCA assistance.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

## SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

### a. Progress

#### Agriculture

Work on the agricultural phase of the Community Development Project at El Darb remains at a standstill due to lack of technicians in the field. Further exploratory well drilling failed to bring in fresh water. It had been hoped that wells would supply part of the water for irrigating a large plot of currently uncultivated ground northwest of El Darb. When an irrigation engineer and a range management specialist arrive in Saudi Arabia they will investigate the possibilities of water spreading in the Wadi. By better diversion of flood waters and the construction of diversion structures it may be possible to increase the amount of land now under cultivation.

Trips were made by Dr. Edens and Tom Moon to Wadi Khulais to locate, if possible, land which might be used for demonstrational plots. It appeared as though most of the cultivable land is already being worked. Further action waits upon studies to be made by the soils technician and irrigation engineer being recruited.

Two plots of ground on SAG experimental farms in Hadda esh Sham, have been selected for demonstration purposes. Soybean, peanut, sorghum and cantaloupe seeds have been planted under the supervision of Tom Moon. The seed bed was turned by ox power using a plow provided by TCA.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

3 7
TOTEC #36
AmEmbassy, Jidda
May 6, 1953

Education

The School of Commerce will close down its operations at the conclusion of this Arabic month (the middle of May) due to Ramadan, the month of fasting. It is expected that the school will reopen at the end of this period providing that the Project Agreement concerned with its continued operation has been signed.

Conferences were held by Dr. Dolley with various school officials including those of the Jidda Industrial School. Plans are being studied for reorganizing the latter school and adapting it so as to be better equipped to meet the needs of the changing local economy.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Natural Resources

Reports were written on mineral studies carried out by TCA geologists Bogue and Goudarzi. Field studies were made along the proposed railway route. While nothing definite is known at this time, there are some indications of ore deposits of possible commercial value.

Water exploration and drilling operations were continued in Asir-Tihama in the area about the coastal town of Qunfidha by Roy Jackson. Further exploratory drilling is planned for Wadi Itwad (El Darb). Donald Daugherty continued hydraulic studies in the Qizan region.

Conferences were held with SAG officials concerning the government's proposed enlarged water resource program. This would cost SAG an estimated $8,000,000 over a two to four year period. SAG will probably request TCA to carry out the technical aspects of the work.

(RESTRICTED)

Public Administration and Government Services

The Classification Guide, an index fixing the classification of about 2000 different products, and the Tariff Ordinance of 1372 have been printed in Arabic but as yet have not been issued. It is believed that issuance awaits the decision of the Finance Minister as to what the price of the publication will be.

Meetings were held with customs officials in an attempt to get them to withhold issuance of customs regulations proposed by an Egyptian advisor until such time as Mr. Kennedy could make

comments and recommendations concerning them. It was finally decided to present the matter to the Finance Minister for his decision. To date, the Finance Minister has not replied.

There appeared to be a certain improvement in relations with the SAG officials as compared to last month.

(RESTRICTED)

Public Health and Sanitation

Initiation of projects was still waiting on the decision concerning the equipment to be used in the project for improving the quarantine services. As a result of this delay, Ministry of Health officials appeared to be losing confidence in the likelihood of effective help being provided by TCA. Unless action can be taken in the near future, the continued existence of this Division is endangered.

Dr. Bevis of TCA/Jordan was in Jidda for consultation concerning the establishment of a laboratory for the manufacture of vaccines.

(RESTRICTED)

Transportation and Communication

Field parties of the Railway Survey party completed a trip of more than one and one-half months through the interior of Arabia. The contract company is now reaching the end of its field work and the survey will be completed within the time scheduled. Mr.Sinclair accompanied the company engineers on this trip.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

Nothing significant to report as no new projects were begun during the month.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

Two applications for Type A Leadership Grants and two requests for type C Grants were being processed and are in their final stages at the end of the month. Two Type C Grants trainees left for U.S. during this month and processing of four other Type C candidates was begun. Numerous inquiries were received during the month concerning

U.S. Training opportunities indicating an increasing interest in this phase of the program. This is in contrast to one year ago when it was very difficult to arouse interest in trainee grants. An example of this interest was a request from the Department of Agriculture to provide training for two or three of its personnel each year.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Nothing new to report.

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed

None

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Agriculture | - | None |
| Public Administration and Government Services | - | None |
| Transportation and Communication | - | None |

Natural Resources

SAG has proposed a greatly increased water resource program. The matter has been discussed by TCA and SAG officials but is still in the planning stage. This project has the King, Crown Prince and the Finance Minister behind it. It is a crucial project and also vital as far as Saudi Arabia is concerned, dealing as it does with Arabia's most needed resource - water. Very great pressure is being exerted by SAG on Point 4 to carry the costs of technicians, etc., needed for the project. This would mean a Natural Resources budget of about $750,000.

(RESTRICTED)

Education

Projects which have been written up include the following: The Project Agreement for the School of Commerce has been sent to Washington for review and is being discussed with the School Committee and SAG officials. The proposal for an AUB Contract Scholarship Program has been sent to Washington for comment and is being discussed with AUB.

An over-all Project Agreement for the modernizing of the Industrial School is under preliminary discussion with SAG officials as is a project for the completion of a training unit on the site of the new Industrial School.

The Department of Education has begun a discussion with TCA concerning help in the establishment of a modern primary school in Jidda. This would be the only school of its kind in Arabia save the schools of Aramco in the oil towns.

A conference was held with SAG officials concerning a Project to modernize the Jidda Police Force. It was decided at this time to limit TCA aid to providing a leadership grant for the Chief of the Jidda Police. Assigning of a U. S. technician to work with the local police was left to future developments as was the training of other police officers.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Health and Sanitation

Project Agreements in the following fields: Strengthening of the Quarantine Service and Enhancing the Public Health Service; Organizing a Maternal and Child Health Clinic; Expanding the Immunization Service; and, finally, a Rural Water and Sewage Disposal Project; are held up awaiting permission from TCA/W to sign the Project Agreement for the Strengthening of the Quarantine Service. It is expected that permission will be forthcoming following the decision of the U. S. Public Health Service and the World Health Organization regarding the type of equipment to be installed in the building to be used for disinfecting.

The Saudis have given verbal approval to the project for the expansion of the Immunization program and the Project will be sent to Washington for approval.

Due to the delay in the signing of the Quarantine Project, the Health Ministry has stopped asking for TCA help until action is taken on previous requests.

(RESTRICTED)

c. Implementation of Agreements - Nothing to report

d. Requests - Nothing to Report

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Nothing new to report.

7 7
TOTEC #36
AmEmbassy,Jidda
May 6, 1953

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR.

FAO There have been no new developments. The problem of financing the proposed Qizan Project is still unsolved. SAG has agreed to build the base camp for the FAO technicians who will carry on further land-water surveys.

Means of construcing of harbor works at Qizan and of a road to the camp site are still undecided on.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

WHO No new developments.

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Conversion to the new accounting system is being done by Mr. Bode. This is a most difficult job as the method previously employed left financial matters in a state of confusion. The administrative section of TCA has suffered from the fact that up to the present time there has been no regular fiscal officer-comptroller on the staff save for the few weeks that Mr. Louis Smith was in Jidda last summer.

b. Nothing new to report.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

For The Ambassador

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

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AmEmbassy Jidda TOTEC #34 April 7,1953

AIR POUCH

TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - MARCH - 1953

INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 3 - 7 |
| | PROGRESS | |
| | Agriculture | 3 |
| | Education | 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 4 |
| | Public Administration & Government Services | 5 |
| | Public Health and Sanitation | 5 - 6 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 6 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 6 |
| | TRAINING | 6 - 7 |
| III | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 7 |
| IV | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 8 |
| V | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 9 |
| VI | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 9 |
| VII | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 9 |


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April 7, 1953

## TCA MONTHLY PROGRAM SUMMARY - MARCH

### SECTION I. CRITIQUE

While progress was made on certain projects already begun, no new undertakings of importance were started or project agreements signed during the month.

The Aerial Survey company completed the photography contracted for in Western Saudi Arabia. This permitted the Railroad Survey field party to proceed according to schedule. It is expected that the Railway Survey report will be ready for presentation to SAG by August.

Saudi Arab criticism of the program became pronounced towards the end of March. This attitude was evident in the request by the Minister of Health that TCA withdraw its Health Division, as in Saudi opinion, nothing had been achieved. Currently, this matter is under discussion. Many factors go to make up this attitude. Anti-western leaders are taking advantage of any apparent weakness in the program to gain their objective of forcing TCA to leave Saudi Arabia. Despite a number of concrete achievements by TCA, there is a prevalent feeling on the part of the Saudis that the program is still a paper one and has not done what it set out to do. There is a Saudi tendency to overlook their own responsibility in slowing up program growth through dilatory tactics and lack of decision. As regards the Health Program, TCA/W's withholding approval of the Quarantine Station Project, previously given high priority by SAG, has undoubtedly caused the feeling to grow that TCA in Saudi Arabia does not intend to do work of fundamental importance for the country. This delay has greatly strengthened the hand of those who seek to discredit TCA locally. The Secretary General of the Health Department reported that Prince Abdulla Feisal was influenced by statements made by the Regional Director of WHO to the effect that TCA had no worth while services to offer and is in fact not favorably disposed to assist in essential health programs.

It is believed likely that SAG demands and pressure for large grants in aid will increase in the next several months. The enlarged program in Egypt and the extensive aid given to Israel serve to stimulate discontent. This undoubtedly will be a crucial period for TCA in Saudi Arabia.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

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SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

The Agriculture program is in a critical condition due in part to the lack of even one technical specialist in any of the basic fields of agriculture and the fact that no projects have been undertaken to date. In Dr. Edens' opinion, the technicians are necessary for the drawing up of projects agreements and their prosecution. The El Darb Rural Community Development Project is virtually at a standstill. To date, test wells have not located fresh water and others must be drilled. There is only one technician present to carry on work with farmers. Mr. Moon was with the drilling crew at El Darb and made studies of the farms, crops, methods of seeding, cultivation, harvesting, insect pests, flora, etc.

Dr. Edens held a number of conferences during the month with the Director General of Agriculture.

A trip was made to Al Hasa in order to investigate the problem of housing for technicians in that Province. Studies were undertaken of the possibility of a land leveling project to demonstrate proper irrigation methods. However, to date, no projects have been presented by Dr. Edens for discussion with SAG.

The Agriculture Experiment Station at Hadda esh Sham was visited. This farm is currently neglected by the SAG Department of Agriculture although water and soil conditions appear to be good.

Wadis Khulais and Asfan were visited in order to select well drilling sites near cultivable land. Soil studies and irrigation problems must be carried on before potentialities of these locations will be known.

(RESTRICTED)

Education

Dr. Dolley reports that the School of Commerce has 125 individual students enrolled, with a total of 2000 student hours of attendance; 1450 SR total fees were received during the last Arabic month; 13 classes were in operation, with a total of 225 hours of instruction for the last Arabic month; the average daily attendance was 70% of total individual enrollment. Lack of teachers and instructional material are still the greatest deficiencies. All of the furniture of the school has been refinished. Certain local opposition to the school has been noted although the fact that a Saudi committee is responsible in large part for the school tends to offset such activity.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Natural Resources

The following is a list of the main work carried out by this Division:

1. The Aero Service Corporation completed all required photography.

2. At Musaijid, a well with good water at about 90 feet was drilled. This well is to provide drinking water for Haj pilgrims.

3. Geologic survey work along the railroad survey route was continued by Mr. Goudarzi.

4. Test drilling sites were selected in Wadi Khulais, a farming center, and an access road into the Wadi from the Medina Road was planned.

5. At Rabigh, a temporary water source for the pilgrims was chosen with drilling begun by the month's end. As SAG anticipates the arrival of perhaps 300,000 pilgrims during the coming Haj period, water at Rabigh and Musaijid is of paramount importance for those going into Medina.

6. Test drilling by the contractor was continued at El Darb.

7. The aerial survey team photographed what appear to be extensive iron ore deposits in north-western Saudi Arabia. These deposits were studied by Mr. Bogue.

8. Water of good quality was found about 20 kilometers from the town of Gizan. The drilling contractor continued his work.

9. The contractor completed 9 test holes for the Taif water supply system.

10. Dr. Brown has held several conferences with Ministry of Finance officials on an extended water development program and recommendations have been made for approval of TCA participation by an enlarged staff of technicians.

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Public Administration and Government Services

The Classification Guide, in index form, to the new Tariff Schedule, settling the proper classification of approximately 2000 different types of commodities, was finally agreed to by the top customs officials. This work has been printed in Arabic and is being bound with the new "Tariff Ordinance of 1372". An English translation of the law and guide is being stencilled.

Saudi Arabian officials announced that a Customs Ordinance drawn up by Hilmi Bey Jinani, an Egyptian Customs Advisor had been approved. The Saudi officials did not consult with Mr. Kennedy on this matter despite the fact that the regulations mentioned above are poorly drawn and are in conflict with the new tariff law.

The Bill of Entry approved in December, 1952, has not yet been printed. SAG officials are supposed to be seeking a foreign printing establishment to do the work. No progress has been made relative to the proposal of Mr. Izzidine for changes in the Customs Accounting System in Jidda.

The present attitude of the customs officials as regards the customs regulations can, to a degree, be attributed to the wish of certain officials to undo the work of this Mission. It has been rumored that some officials even want to get rid of the new tariff law. Meetings with the officials are being held and it is hoped they may be persuaded not to adopt the above-mentioned customs regulations and to proceed with a plan more in accordance with the tariff law and local necessities. In part, this action of the SAG officials may be regarded as an attempt to discredit the work of this field group.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Public Health and Sanitation

The existence of the entire proposed health program has been seriously threatened due to the delay in presenting to the Health Ministry the Project Agreement for the equipping of the disinfecting building of the Quarantine Station. The Minister will not discuss TCA's undertaking of any other project until this Agreement has been signed. As noted previously, the Minister of Health informally asked for the withdrawal of the Division.

During the month, visits were made by Mr. Ferguson to the Jidda water system, in order to collect basic information with the view of assisting the Water Commission in future planning for Jidda.

A file of clippings from local newspapers on health news was instituted. Pictures of the Quarantine Station were forwarded to TCA/W.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

a. Progress

Public Health and Sanitation (Continued)

Mr. Neil Brinck, Sanitarian, arrived from Washington on March 31.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Transportation and Communication

The Railway Survey party spent the entire month in the field making a detailed study of the proposed route. Mr. Sinclair and the contract employees are expected back in Jidda sometime during the month of April.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

b. Local Participation

The Saudi Government is paying for all costs of the exploratory drilling program except for the technical direction provided by the Natural Resources Division.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

c. Training

17 applications for training grants have been processed and submitted to Washington since November, 1952. 6 of these were handled during March. 8 have reported for training in Washington. All grantee applicants have been recommended to Dr. Dolley directly through Saudi Government Agencies by the Liaison Officer, Mr. Husseini. This procedure has not allowed for the application of selective criteria on the part of TCA Divisions in determining which persons should be proposed as candidates. Candidates who had been given verbal approval by Dr. Fisher have now been processed.

As regards other aspects of the trainee program, it is difficult to inform Washington exactly as to the prospective arrival date of the trainees in the United States due to the relative uncertainty of flights from Jidda north to Cairo or Beirut. Concerning security clearance, the Embassy performs the function, using the few means available locally. To date, all trainees have been given clearance and have been issued visas.

In the Natural Resources Division, Saudi Arabians are being trained in the operation of drilling rigs. Two Saudi Arabian Geologists from the Saudi Arabian Bureau of Mines are working with the field parties.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

c. Training (Continued)

Dr. Dolley plans to go to Al Hasa Province in the near future to study training facilities and instructional materials and methods of ARAMCO. It is hoped that in the near future, local training facilities will be utilized and projects will get underway. It is expected that some of the highly skilled Americans working with private concerns in Saudi Arabia will be used in the training program.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Education - Plans for the development of a long-term training program are being formulated. A project is being studied which would seek to make use of AUB facilities, by providing for one year technical training fellowships for upwards of 60 Saudis yearly.

(RESTRICTED)

Natural Resources - A plan to map and obtain preliminary samples of iron ores in northwestern Arabia was made. SAG expressed interest in having American mining companies study possible concessions.

A comprehensive plan has been drawn up, on the request of the Crown Prince and the Finance Minister, for extensive water development to increase stock wells and aid in limiting the movement of nomadic tribes. The plan includes the following: Aerial photography for the remainder of Saudi Arabia except the Rub al Khali desert area; a geologic and hydrologic mapping program; an exploratory drilling program and a development drilling program. ARAMCO officials and personnel of American contractors were consulted as to the overall nature of the plan, costs, methods of operation, etc.

(RESTRICTED)

Public Health - In cooperation with WHO, it is being proposed that SAG establish a National Health Advisory Council on which WHO and TCA will be represented.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Public Administration and Government Services - Consideration is being given to the possibility of developing a project to make the Customs Administration a model organization by introducing modern personnel practices, a more efficient accounting system, and other practices of a modern administration.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed - None.

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation

| | |
|---|---|
| Agriculture | -None |
| Public Administration and Government Services | -None |
| Natural Resources | -None |
| Transportation and Communication | -None |

Education - Two months ago, discussions were held concerning a police training project. Recently, SAG has decided to attempt to bring about some of the changes discussed at these conferences through the services of an Egyptian Mission currently in Saudi Arabia. It is believed likely that one or more leader grants may be secured for the police officials to observe and study criminal investigation procedures and law enforcement activities in the United States. In this way, the Minister of Interior's request for police training may be satisfactorily handled.

The Project Agreement for the School of Commerce is still in the process of being reviewed by TCA and the School Committee prior to presentation to SAG officials.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Public Health - Progress towards reaching agreement on a number of projects is dependent on the final approval by TCA of the Quarantine Station Project. Agreements held up at this time include the following; A Public Health Laboratory at Jidda with training facilities for technicians; a Maternal and Child Health Clinic; and a Privy Building Project.

No action was taken on the project involving the establishment of a laboratory for the manufacture of vaccines.

(RESTRICTED)

c. Implementation of Agreements - Nothing to Report.

d. Requests

As noted above under Section III, SAG has requested aid for a greatly enlarged water development program. Included in this is a request for an extended exploratory drilling program for supplemental water for Riyadh.

(RESTRICTED)

In Public Health, the Ministry of Health requested assistance in establishing a medical library in Jidda. A list of Public Health books, in English, Arabic and French, is being compiled for presentation to the Ministry.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION V. Program Information

a. Photographs concerning various projects and situations in Saudi Arabia were sent to Washington.

Of interest is the action of the Amir of Gizan, in calling the local citizenry together for a prayer of thanks to the United States, following the completion of a water well for the Gizan water supply. If the source proves to be adequate, it will be a great relief to this Tihama-Asir port town which up to the present has had to depend on water borne by camels over many kilometers.

b. Nothing to Report.
c. Nothing to Report.

d. A monthly issue of Public Health Reports and a copy of "Communicable Diseases in Man" were sent to the Ministry of Health.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR

FAO Following a period of disinterest and criticism on the part of SAG, FAO has been given to understand that the government approves of its plans for the Wadi Gizan water and land development project. Financing of the work is still uncertain with Mr. Johnson of FAO seeking to make this a TCA responsibility. He has been notified of TCA's willingness to cooperate with FAO within the limits set by Congress but not to the extent of financing FAO projects.

WHO Dr. Shousha and Mr. Brooks of WHO's Regional Office at Alexandria, Egypt, visited Point Four offices to discuss the TCA and WHO health programs. Both organizations agree as to the necessity for establishing a National Health Advisory Council.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. Relationships with the Embassy continued in general to be satisfactory. The problem of per diem field expenses has been settled for the present time with the rate set at $12 per day.

b. The lengthy process involved in the recruitment of personnel continues to be a major problem for the program in Saudi Arabia.

The new accounting and budgetary procedures for TCA are being worked on by Mr. Bode.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

FOR THE Ambassador

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of Technical
Cooperation in Saudi Arabia

Monthly Report
Despatches

CONFIDENTIAL

AmEmbassy Jidda TOTEC #27 March 9, 1953.

AIR POUCH

TCA Monthly Program Summary - FEBRUARY

INDEX


| SECTION | TITLE | PAGE |
|---|---|---|
| I. | CRITIQUE | 2 |
| II. | OPERATIONS SUMMARY | 2-7 |
| | PROGRESS | 2 |
| | Agriculture | 2-3 |
| | Education | 3 |
| | Natural Resources | 3-4 |
| | Public Admin & Govt Services | 4-5 |
| | Public Health and Sanitation | 5 |
| | Transportation and Communication | 6 |
| | Rural Community Development Project | 6 |
| | LOCAL PARTICIPATION | 6 |
| | TRAINING | 6-7 |
| III. | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT | 7 |
| IV. | AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS | 8 |
| V. | PROGRAM INFORMATION | 8 |
| VI. | TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR | 9 |
| VII. | PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION | 9-10 |


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CONFIDENTIAL

TCA Monthly Program Summary - FEBRUARY

SECTION I. CRITIQUE

During the month some progress was made toward attaining program objectives. Work on the Railroad Survey continued. Aerial photography was begun in the Tihama and Hejaz. The Saudi Arabian Government submitted an official request for assistance in connection with the sterilizing apparatus of the Quarantine Station now nearing completion. Mineral exploration work continued. New Tariff and Customs regulations and procedures were worked on. Discussions took place concerning the Agriculture Program. The Commercial School's expansion continued.

One of the problems in connection with program growth is the retarded state of recruitment of personnel. However, it is not only the problem of recruiting technicians but of getting technicians with the required emotional and physical makeup necessary to succeed under the trying local conditions. Unless a technician is so qualified, his presence in the field can do more harm than good. Housing also continued to be a bottleneck and the lack of adequate stenographic assistance is a retarding influence.

The SAG attitude was in general friendly but long delays still occur before action is decided upon. There is the continuing problem of the government's dissatisfaction with a program which is primarily technical assistance and light on financial aid. Educational efforts regarding the intent and purpose of the TCA program continue.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

SECTION II. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

a. Progress

Agriculture

Discussions took place with Shaikh Ahmed Obaid, Director of Agriculture concerning Point 4 and SAG plans for improving local agriculture. Obaid agrees that the program should begin with the farmer. He tends to overstress the need to use machinery and forgets the very primitive state of the Saudi cultivation. Dr. Edens submitted a general plan of work to Obaid with the report being favorably received. Another report dealt with a proposed budget for the agriculture stations which Shaikh Obaid intends to establish at a number of points. (RESTRICTED)

Mr. Moon spent the month at El Darb for the purpose of selecting a camp site for the Rural Community Development Project.

The Saudis raised the question several times as to the date of arrival of expected technicians.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Education

New equipment purchased in Beirut was installed in the School of Commerce during the month. Thirty typing tables constructed under Dr. Dolley's supervision, were furnished by the School Committee. The School's enrollment passed the 100 mark. Major considerations confronting the School are lack of teacher supply, lack of text and instructional material and organization of course outlines and instructional units and specifications. Two full-time teachers and three part-time evening teachers are presently needed and being sought. The Advisory Committee and Dr. Dolley feel that an American commercial expert should operate the school.

Work continued on the processing of trainee candidates. Four of the telephone communication candidates were ready to leave for the United States.

The Project Agreement for the School of Commerce is being written with the aid and advice of the Advisory Committee. An Agreement for the Industrial School is under consideration. Conferences were held concerning the problem of establishing and training a modern police force in Jidda. The Minister of Interior, H. R. H. Prince Abdullah Faisal made the request for the training project. The matter is being studied.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Natural Resources

Yenbo water supply quality determined except for rare constituents for which a sample is being sent to U. S. Geological Survey Quality of Water Laboratory in Washington.

Geology from photography has been used to lay out drilling program for Musaijid on pilgrimage drinking water problem.

Railroad survey photography done by contractor during month. A preliminary report of geology along proposed route has been prepared, indicating that some manganese, copper and possibly some non-metallic deposits will be examined in detail.

Taif map with Arabic and English place names was nearly completed at end of the month.

Stream gaging program included design Gizan cableway, plotting field notes from Tihama al Yemen.

Riyadh check dam report completed and translated into Arabic for the Finance Minister.

Agricultural development at Darb. Two sand and gravel aquifers found by drilling during month but tests not complete by end of month.

Ore deposits North Arabia - field work continued. Possible sizeable deposits of sedimentary iron ore were discovered in northwestern part but potentialities await further investigation.

New Projects include some discussion of expanded geologic mapping and water well drilling campaign throughout Saudi Arabia.

The Aero Service Corp. began field work flying a B-17 without contract but with letter of intent. Most of good flying weather has passed because of delays in Washington and consequently much of the natural resources program may have to wait until next photographic season, September to January.

(RESTRICTED)

## Public Administration and Government Services

The Arabic version of the classification guide, setting forth in index form the proper classification of imports under the Tariff Ordinance of 1372, was completed. The guide provides for an interpretation of the Tariff Schedule and should reduce controversies over classification of imports to a minimum.

Agreement was reached with the Saudis as to prpper treatment of advertising materials, containers, agricultural implements and water pumps.

During the first part of the month, Mr. Kennedy, recently appointed as Acting Customs and Tariff Advisor, was in Dhahran with Shaikh Mohammad Nurr, Director General of Saudi Arabian Customs. The purpose of the trip was primarily to establish a new arrangement between Customs and the SAG Railroad Company which operates the Port of Dammam.

The form and content of a new Bill of Entry decided on several months ago by Mr. Dunaway and SAG officials, is in the hands of the printers. Instructions for filling in the Bill of Entry and regulations as to its use are being formulated. The Bill of Entry will probably be introduced at Jidda first and will later be adopted generally throughout the country.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

Public Health

An official dinner was given in honor of H.R.H. Prince Abdullah Faisal, Minister of Health. Fourteen persons associated with the Ministry, TCA and WHO attended.

Visits to hospitals, the quarantine station and other places were made for the purpose of becoming familiar with local conditions. Discussions were held concerning a project involving installation of disinfecting apparatus at the Quarantine Station. This project will be of interest to the entire Moslem world for the building will be used yearly by the hundred thousand or so pilgrims coming to Jidda and Mecca each year. The SAG has spent 10,000,000 SR on the Station and has allocated 2,000,000 SR more. TCA's contribution will be about $100,000 if the project is finally agreed to.

The project which is to establish a public health laboratory at Jidda where technicians could be trained has been held up to see if it can be included in the new Quarantine Station.

Due to lack of SAG interest and also lack of TCA personnel, the privy building project has been put off at least temporarily.

TCA has asked SAG to submit preliminary plans for the building of the proposed laboratory to manufacture vaccines. This project is not being pushed by TCA due to the questionable worth of such a laboratory. Due to SAG interest in it, discussions proceed.

A project to establish a maternal and child health center is being pushed. The Chief of the Saudi Division of Preventive Medicines shows a definite interest in this matter. Point 4 contribution will be primarily the provision of a Chief Nurse to organize the Clinic.

Work was somewhat slowed by the failure of the Secretary General of the Ministry to meet with Mr. Ferguson after several requests for a meeting. It is thought he is dissatisfied with Point 4's cool attitude toward the proposed laboratory for manufacture of vaccines.

(RESTRICTED)

Transportation and Communication

The survey of the proposed railroad line between Riyadh-Jidda has proceeded. Mr. Sinclair, Chief of the Transportation Division, and Mr. Goudarzi, Geologist with the Natural Resources Division, accompanied the party. Necessary aerial photography work was somewhat delayed due to poor flying conditions. The work of the contractor is reported to be ahead of the estimated time schedule.

Rural Community Development Program

Drilling to locate water for the camp site in the vicinity of El Darb continued. To date, fresh water has not been found. Conversations continued with SAG concerning the improvement of the Jidda - El Darb - Gizan roadway. TCA has offered to lend $150,000 worth of road building equipment, to be used later in development of irrigation at El Darb. SAG has approved of this offer but to date has not organized a schedule of work or detailed how it proposes to do the job.

(RESTRICTED)

b. Local Participation

1. There is nothing new to add concerning SAG contributions to existing projects. SAG contributions to proposed projects is dependent on the terms arrived at in the several Project Agreements.

2. The local committee of the School of Commerce continues to make small contributions in the way of additional furniture and supplies.

3. No projects have been turned over to the host government for operation or maintenance by its agencies.

c. Training

1. During the month, four candidates were approved by TCA/W for training in telephone communications in the U. S. Another candidate for training in Government Service was also approved. Processing of other candidates continued.

2. No trainees have returned to Saudi Arabia.

3. No local training projects are being carried on.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

In Agriculture, the interest shown by the Director General in having Point 4 review the budget and make recommendations indicates some realization of the role Point 4 can play in planning the future SAG program. The present organization and administration of the Department of Agriculture is poor and it needs to be greatly strengthened before it will be in a position to function effectively. At this time it is difficult to say how much effort SAG is willing to expend in agricultural improvement.

In Public Health the positive factors are the apparent interest in an enlarged program on the part of the Minister of Health and the comparatively large budget he has at his disposal. The number of proposed projects being discussed is indicative of the conditions in this field.

SAG has requested the Natural Resources Division to review a proposed enlarged drilling program. This is to provide water to many areas whose sources are insufficient or uncertain. TCA's participation would be in an advisory capacity. The program would be a costly one of unproven feasibility. It is, perhaps, indicative of the central government's concern for isolated tribal areas. Planning such a program would be dependent on having basic facts developed via aerial photography, ground surveys, etc.

Discussions took place with SAG officials concerning a proposed fertilizer plant utilizing waste gas. SAG at this time would not appear to be in a position to finance the project without outside aid. A possible TCA project would be to provide additional technical information concerning the feasibility of the plant.

The rate of Saudi Arabian economic development is dependent largely on the wisdom with which its revenues are spent. There are indications that Royal expenditures continue to grow and that government finances are, as usual, in a bad state. This obviously is a serious limiting factor in the government's ability to carry out an extensive development program.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

SECTION IV. AGREEMENTS AND REQUESTS

a. Agreements Executed - None

b. Agreements Under Current Negotiation:

As noted above, projects are being discussed in Public Health. In Education a possible project for training firemen and pdicemen has had a number of preliminary discussions.

c. Implementation of Agreements

The Rural Community Development Project is being held back by SAG's indefinite attitude concerning road improvement to the El Darb.

d. Requests

Nothing except as noted above concerning the Quarantine Station and Vaccine Laboratory.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

SECTION V. PROGRAM INFORMATION

a. Human interest stories on Point 4 - A number of stories will be submitted in the near future.

b. Attitudes of public and information media expressed toward program - Nothing to report.

c. Significant actions taken to affect these attitudes by host government or TCA - Nothing to report.

d. Technical or information pamphlets, etc., distributed - None.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

SECTION VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS OTHER THAN POINT FOUR

The WHO continues to have three teams in Saudi Arabia.

1. Quarantine Advisor
2. Malaria Control
3. Venereal Disease Control

FAO's project in Gizan received limited approval with SAG promising to finance aerial survey work to be completed and field studies continued. Financing of the actual project is still uncertain. The project of date packing and distribution continues. Packaging machinery has been set up in Jidda and sample packages of Medina dates made up. The Fishery Project is being carried out with the use of a chartered boat. The extent of Saudi support for it is not known.

(RESTRICTED)

SECTION VII. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

a. TCA-Embassy Relationship

This relationship has on the whole continued to be satisfactory. TCA has had the benefit of the sage counsel, advice and assistance of the Ambassador on all important matters. However, the clearance of goods through Customs is still regrettably slow and this has caused a good deal of inconvenience as well as dissatisfaction on the part of TCA personnel.

The uncertainty over the per diem for field trip expenses has caused some dissatisfaction. Several staff members were informed while being recruited that the per diem would be $18.00 per day. This maximum was fixed on the basis of hotel accommodations at Dhahran and not on cost data of field trips. The request of the Embassy Executive Officer for actual cost data on field trips is being complied with and a per diem rate will be arrived at which can be supported by the facts.

A joint Embassy-TCA Sports and Entertainment Committee has been formed for better recreational facilities. Movies are being shown two or three times a week at the Embassy for Embassy and TCA staff members and their guests and these are very helpful to morale.

The request of a member of TCA secretarial staff for transfer at the end of twelve months has raised an important matter of policy. This has been fully covered in official correspondence but the recommendation is repeated that the pdicy in regard to length of tour should be applicable to all employees in each category of USA personnel.

b. Service from TCA/W, Technical Agencies and Other Washington Offices

No new difficulties have arisen but the matter of relationship between TCA and the so-called "Action Agencies" is in need of study and clarification, particularly in the case of USGS.

(RESTRICTED)

For the Ambassador

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

AIR POUCH RESTRICTED

AmEmbassy Jidda TOTEC #25

February 3, 1953.

POINT IV MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY

INTRODUCTION

With excellentweather conditions prevailing, TCA field groups were able to make numerous trips to interior regions and carry out studies and explorations. The final Program Agreement, that of Education, was signed by SAG and a number of Project Agreements are being discussed with the government. Several projects are delayed due to the lack of technicians to carry them out. The attitude, in general, of the Saudis is one of cooperation - with future relations largely dependent on the success in getting work started and in providing visible results.

AGRICULTURE

Plans for the agricultural phase of the El Darb Community Development Project are in preparation.

During the month several meetings were held with the Director General of Agriculture to go over his ideas and those of Point Four concerning Saudi Arabian agricultural development.

EDUCATION

During the month efforts were made to clean up the backlog of trainee applications. The field is still waiting for final Washington approval on candidates whose papers have already been forwarded. SAG has been applying a good deal of pressure in this matter. Commitments made in the past have caused a certain amount of difficulty due to the frequent relative lack of preparation on the part of the candidates.

The School of Commerce is functioning although the increase in size has caused certain difficulties in the way of furniture, equipment and teaching staff. With the signing of the Education Program Agreement, it is expected that a Project Agreement will be drawn up to formalize the TCA-Commerce Committee understanding.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Two trips were made to Qunfidha, 300 kilometers south of Jidda, in order to get samples of water from 6 possible sources of water supply for that city. The water specimens were later analyzed.

On January 12, Mr. Bogue accompanied by Mr. Philby, noted British explorer and student of Arabia, left on a month's trip to northern Arabia to study reported sulphur deposits.

Work continued on a joint report with Michael Baker Inc., concerning the feasibility of check dams at Riyadh. Test drilling by the contracted company was done at several sites in an attempt to study the permeability of the soil and to evaluate the probable effectiveness of the dams.

Baker, Inc., carried on drilling at Riyadh, Yenbo, Muwaih and Taif. One exploratory hole drilled 30 kilometers from the town of Yenbo produced potable water containing 2000 parts per million of dissolved salts. However, the flow was limited and would not be sufficient for the town.

At Muwaih a supply of water was found and the rig moved to Taif to begin drilling in an effort to find water for that small city. A rotary rig has been assigned for work at the Darb Project Site and casing for Darb and Qizan water supplies was shipped from Jidda.

Trucks to be used for the water resource program have been released following final clearance of a letter of credit. These trucks are being shipped from New York and will greatly relieve the extremely tight transport problem.

SAG has requested that studies be made leading towards increasing water supplies on the Medina-Mecca pilgrimage road. Work proceeds slowly due to lack of aerial photographs, lack of transportation and the transfer of some rigs to Al Hasa Province.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Conferences were held by Mr. Kennedy with the Customs Committee reviewing an Index which will greatly simplify the interpretation of the new Tariff Law. This was time-consuming work but important in that it involved decisions as to the particular tariff items under which imported goods will be classified. Approval of the index will be sought by the Committee so that it may be published.

On January 25, Mr. Kennedy and the Committee went to Dhahran to consult with the Minister of Finance on the problem of the relationship between the SAG Railroad Company and Customs. The Port of Dammam is managed by the Railroad which transports goods some eight miles to the Customs warehouses. Satisfactory arrangements have not yet been worked out for the turn-over of goods from the Railroad to Customs.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION

Due to the fact that only the Division Chief is in the field, work progressed slowly. Investigation of conditions were carried out in Jidda including a vist to the civil Mayor of Jidda in order to study the garbage - refuse disposal methods, drainage problems and water supply system.

Conferences were held with Ministry of Health officials to discuss future Projects. SAG insists that the first one deal with the establishment of a laboratory, for the manufacture of vaccine for cholera, small pox, and typhoid fever, at Taif. Other projects deal with the construction of pit privies and the setting up of a school to teach laboratory technicians. It would appear as though SAG approval of these latter projects is dependent on TCA's willingness to cooperate on the vaccine laboratory.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

A field party composed of Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Goudarzi of Natural Resources Division, Mr. Buck of International Engineering and technicians of the contracted concern left on January 16 to make an extended reconnaissance of the railroad route. The party is expected to be gone from three to four weeks, depending on the time spent in studying passes through the mountains and other difficult terrain features. Prior to leaving, three days were spent in a Saudi Arabian plane making an aerial reconnaissance over the prospective route.

RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

As staff housing is a first consideration, plans were drafted of a simple structure using local material and certain native architectural features. This headquarters house will be located between El Darb and open land to the Northwest. This land is arable and if water is found in sufficient quantity it should prove to be a valuable addition to local economic resources. Mr. Moon of the Agriculture Division and a party of local personnel left for El Darb on January 22, in order to select the camp site and cooperate with the drilling crew in locating well sites for the project camp. Wells will be so located as to provide water for a demonstration plot of ground as well as for the headquarters camp.

Conversations took place between TCA and SAG officials concerning repair of the Jidda-Darb-Qizan road as being a part of the Rural Community Development Project. It is probable that TCA will contribute towards the purchase of equipment needed to carry out this work.

For the Ambassador

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia